

# Morning Star



Jordan Olson

2007-2008  
NSHS Fine Arts  
Anthology

# Morning Star

2007 - 2008

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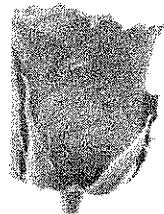
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I AM  
I AM A LOVING JESUS FREAK.  
I WONDER HOW TO GET THE POT OF  
GOLD AT THE END OF THE RAINBOW. I  
HEAR PEOPLE CURSING OVER  
NOTHING. I SEE P.D.A. I WANT  
TO TRAVEL BACK IN TIME TO WHEN  
THERE SEEMED TO BE NO PROBLEMS. I  
AM A LOVING  
JESUS FREAK.  
I PRETEND I  
NEVER FEEL  
PAIN. I FEEL  
THE GOOD  
THINGS IN  
LIFE ARE  
WORTH  
DYING  
OVER.  
I TOUCH  
THE SPOON  
THAT HOLDS  
LIFE'S GREATEST  
JOYS. I WORRY THE  
WORLD WILL END BEFORE  
PEOPLE HAVE THE CHANCE  
TO BE SAVED. I AM A LOVING JESUS  
FREAK. I UNDERSTAND PEOPLE WANT  
TO FIT IN. I SAY GOD IS MORE  
IMPORTANT THAN BEING LOVED BY  
OTHERS. I DREAM OF ENTERING THE  
GLORIOUS HEAVEN ABOVE. I TRY TO  
FIND LOVE IN EVERYONE. I HOPE TO  
FIND MY OWN TRUE WAY WITH  
CHRIST. I AM A LOVING JESUS FREAK.

Maria

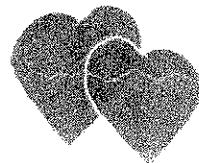
Biddle

# I Am



I am understanding and loving  
I wonder what people would say about me at my funeral  
I hear my friends calling my name  
I see my fantasy come true  
I want to turn back time  
I am understanding and loving

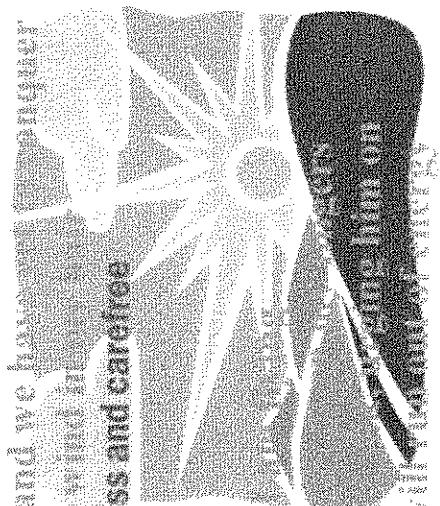
I pretend to listen to people  
I feel the loving hugs  
I touch the rose  
I worry about the future  
I cry about what was  
I am understanding and loving



I understand it was for the best  
I say you're the greatest  
I dream about the past  
I try not to be obvious  
I hope they listen to me  
I am understanding and loving

Abbie Burt

## Am reckless and carefree



Am reckless and carefree

## Am reckless and carefree

# I Am

I am spontaneous and **opinionated**

I wonder what will happen next

I hear the sounds of **silence**

I see time **FLYING** by

I want **PEACE** and understanding

I am spontaneous and **opinionated**

I pretend to **know** what I'm doing

I feel flustered

I touch the **SKY**

I worry about being **worried**

I cry when others **WEEP**

I am spontaneous and **opinionated**

I understand that the **SUN** will rise tomorrow

I say **family** is **everything**

I dream of **impossible possibilities**

I try not to **hate**

I hope there is **hope** for me

I am spontaneous and **opinionated**

By Maria Chidurung

# This Is Why I'm Hot

I AM rebellious and independent

I WONDER [REDACTED]

I HEAR music blisterng from the radio

I SEE [REDACTED] with my close friends

I WANT [REDACTED]

I AM rebellious and independent

I PRETEND everything is okay

I FEEL lost between fragility and reality

I TOUCH the photos of my better days

I WORRY I can't FIX what I've BECOME

I CRY about what I've Done

I AM rebellious and independent

I UNDERSTAND I can't GO BACK in time

I SAY I will NEVER surrender

I DREAM about forgiving the past

I TRY to SURVIVE and KEEP STANDING

I HOPE I can move past the REGRETS

I AM rebellious and independent

Nicola

Cott

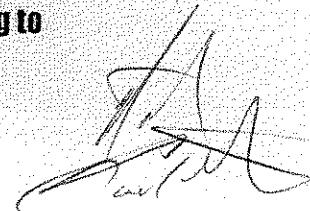
I am  
Optimistic and  
Outgoing. I wonder  
If I can see in heaven. I  
Hear a friend's need for help.  
I see the cup as half full. I  
Want friendship. I am  
Optimistic and  
Outgoing

I pretend  
to be the President  
I feel sympathy. I touch  
friend's hearts. I worry I will  
lose a friendship. I cry when I  
lose someone that I love and  
helped care for. I am  
optimistic and  
Outgoing

I  
Understand  
God has  
A plan  
For me.  
I say

Jesus is  
My Lord  
And Savior and that he died for me. I dream about  
I hope I make it  
Somewhere in life  
I am optimistic and  
Outgoing.

"B" average.  
maintain a  
Try to  
time. I  
the big  
getting to

  
Nate Currlett

## I AM

I am cheerful and easily intrigued.

I wonder how many stars are in the sky.

I hear horse galloping in the field.

I see gold and scarlet leaves blowing in the breeze.

I am cheerful and easily intrigued.

I pretend I am flying.

I feel the wind in my hair.

I touch the snowflakes that haven't yet fallen.

I worry when I see people who have no one to love them.

I cry for people who don't know true joy.

I am cheerful and easily intrigued.

I understand that God created everything.

I say He is who gives me joy.

I dream the whole world knows Him and love Him.

I try to comprehend how He works.

I hope for everyone to someday understand.

I am cheerful and easily intrigued.

# I AM . . .

I am free-spirited and open  
I wonder what I'll do next  
I hear the sounds of birds  
I see life as an unexplainable journey  
I want to be unique  
I am free-spirited and open

I pretend to be serious  
I feel like I'm a character in a fairytale  
I touch my creative side  
I worry about what obstacles lie ahead  
I cry about forgetting past memories  
I am free-spirited and open

I understand how to be myself  
I say what I feel  
I dream what I want  
I try what I desire  
I hope my dreams come true  
I am free-spirited and open

Chloe Grapet

I am



I am creative and musical

- I wonder how far I will go
- I hear sweet melodies

I see gleaming keys and black ink on the staff

I want to be the best

I am creative and musical

I pretend I am performing

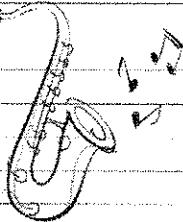
I feel the crescendo of excitement

I touch the air thick with sound

I worry that I will be out of tune

I cry a lonely ballad

I am creative and musical



I understand unison and harmony

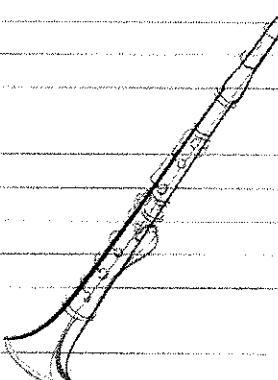
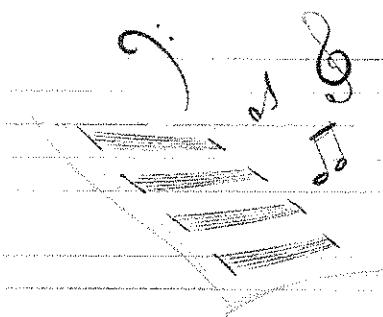
I say what I feel in a universal language

I dream of success

I try to put on a show nobody will ever forget

I hope for applause

I am creative and musical



53

P

3

6

2

Olivia Hawley

*I Am*

I am determined and strong. I wonder about my Grandpa's passion for basketball. I hear the hollow echo of a bouncing ball in an empty gym. I see the rectangular pieces of wood fitted into the floor. I want to play college basketball. I am determined and strong. I pretend to play in a championship N.C.A.A. game. I feel the pressure of competition around me. I touch the moist air, thick with excitement. I worry about failing my team, myself. I cry for my mom who wants her dad to see me play. I am determined and strong. I understand that hard work is the key to success. I say that basketball runs through my blood. I dream of seeing my grandpa cheer me on in the stands. I try to become a better player every day. I hope to carry on my Grandpa's legacy. I am determined and strong.



Kaitlin  
Heinen

mind. I am a dancer and expressionist.

to  
brought  
are  
memories  
when  
cry  
I  
. .  
execution  
my  
about  
I  
say

I touch the audience . I worry

\*I

power  
the  
and  
rhythm  
the  
feel  
I  
am  
a  
dancer  
and  
expressionist

to  
never  
give  
up,  
but  
I  
often  
want  
to

I  
wonder  
if  
I  
posses  
what  
it  
takes  
to  
get  
famous

I  
expressionist  
and  
dancer  
a  
am  
I

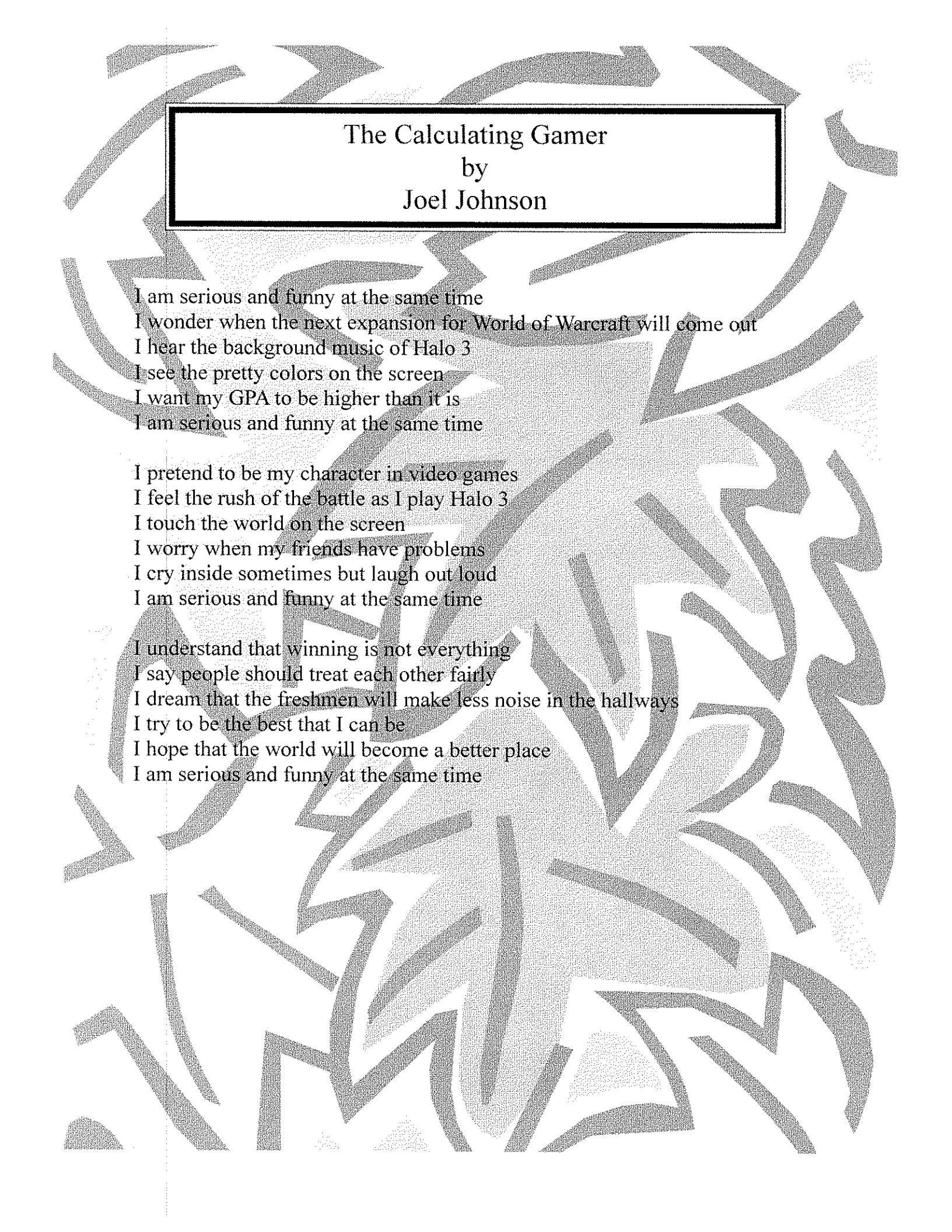
I  
try  
to  
cover  
up  
the  
difficulty

best  
the  
be  
to  
want  
I  
. .  
head my in movements  
, expressionist and dancer a am I

power . I  
of hope  
silence you  
. see  
I my

see passion  
the for  
dance

Jessica  
Jennings



# The Calculating Gamer

by  
Joel Johnson

I am serious and funny at the same time  
I wonder when the next expansion for World of Warcraft will come out  
I hear the background music of Halo 3  
I see the pretty colors on the screen  
I want my GPA to be higher than it is  
I am serious and funny at the same time

I pretend to be my character in video games  
I feel the rush of the battle as I play Halo 3  
I touch the world on the screen  
I worry when my friends have problems  
I cry inside sometimes but laugh out loud  
I am serious and funny at the same time

I understand that winning is not everything  
I say people should treat each other fairly  
I dream that the freshmen will make less noise in the hallways  
I try to be the best that I can be  
I hope that the world will become a better place  
I am serious and funny at the same time

I Am....

I am hopeful and strong.

I wonder what others think of me, but don't let their opinion guide  
the choices I make

I hear the sound of my heart beat and breathe in every moment  
like it's the last.

I see the people around me suffer and laugh with joy at the exact  
same moment.

I want to change the world, yet I don't know how.

I am hopeful and strong

I pretend to be princess so that I can make a difference and be  
heard.

I feel I can do anything I put my mind to if I have the courage and  
strength to believe in myself, and never look back.

I touch the hearts of those that I love, and smile when they touch  
mine back.

I worry about the most pointless things, and laugh at how  
ridiculous I can be.

I cry hardly ever, and smile almost always.

I am hopeful and strong.

I understand that I am not perfect, no expects me to be, and that  
it is all right to make mistakes.

I say that it's okay to frown and be sad, as long as you don't  
forget how to smile and have fun.

I dream of flying to the end of the world and back just so that I can  
say I did it.

I try to do my best at everything I do, because even if I don't  
succeed, at least I didn't give up.

I hope that my grandparents are smiling down at me from heaven  
and thinking of how proud I make them, and that one day, I'll

see them again

I am hopeful and strong.

Alexandra  
Holloway

# What Makes Me

## ME

By: ??????????????????

I am ambitious and proud  
I wonder what life will be like in the future

I hear my dad **always**  
giving me advice

*I see grandma rocking me to sleep*  
**I want to change the world**

I am ambitious and proud

I pretend that my mom won't make a **FOOL** of herself

**I feel my ancestors watching me**

*I touch my granddad's pencil moustache as a baby*

I worry about things I shouldn't worry about

*I cry very little and laugh often*

I am ambitious and proud

I understand that I'll end up **exactly like my dad**

I say **be proud of yourself**

I dream that I'll be rich and famous

I try to **be all I can be**

I hope I'll get into the Military Academy

I am ambitious and proud

Sean Sowellette

Sean Loveley

# **I Am**

**I am** free as myself,  
**I wonder** about other's thoughts,  
**I hear** questions,  
**I see** my differences,  
**I want** to be free as myself,

**I am** free as myself.

**I pretend** I've done this before,  
**I feel** nothing at all,  
**I touch** the unimaginable,  
**I worry** about being the same,  
**I cry** for those who aren't free as themselves,

**I am** free as myself.

**I understand** my point of view,  
**I say** go your own way,  
**I dream** of success,  
**I try** to understand your point of view,  
**I hope** you are free as yourself,

**I am** free as myself.

Daniel Marceau

I am *free spirited* and *peaceful*,

I wonder what it would be like to **change** the world,

I hear the wind whistling through the trees,

I see the trees *swaying* and **bending** in the breeze,

I want to make *peace* but have *fun*,

I am *free spirited* and *peaceful*,

I pretend that I can **fly**,

I feel that the **imaginary** is exciting,

I touch the **CRISP BLUE** of the sky,

I worry about what the **world** is becoming,

I cry when people don't *get along*,

I am *free spirited* and *peaceful*,

I understand that I can be *free* and *peaceful*,

I say that *peace* can be achieved,

I dream about the **future**,

I try to **make a difference**,

I hope for happiness for everyone,

I am *free spirited* and *peaceful*.

Kirstin Marriott

I AM

I am a Christian student trying to Survive High School and a good person to talk to. I wonder why students make life so hard. I hear cussing and drama throughout the halls.

I see PDA and put down left and right. I want freshman and just everyone in general to stop cussing, (it really isn't as cool as you think it is.) I am a Christian student trying to survive High School and a good person to talk to. I pretend that I could control what everyone says and does. I feel great when I pass a class or test with flying colors. I touch people's days when I am able to help out with their problems. I worry about people that think they need to drink, smoke, do drugs, cuss, and not do their homework to fit in. I cry inside when I see or hear of someone getting put down and

me or another person does nothing to stop it. I am a Christian student trying to survive High School and a good person to talk to. I understand that High School is hard even for the best of students.

I say that I am a Christian through thick and thin. I dream that everyone will actually turn out okay after High School and that no one will have to live through poverty.

I hope that I can graduate from High School a "clean" kid.

**I am a Christian student  
trying to survive  
High School and a  
Good person to talk to.**

Megan Martin

# I Am Who I Am...

*I am a person ready to help and a person full of dreams about the future. I wonder if dreams really do come true. I hear the babbling talk of the family and friends who constantly surround me.*

*I see the happy smiles  
of the people who have  
been affected by my kindness. I  
want to travel the world and help  
those in need. I am a person ready*

*full of dreams about the future. I pretend that I have a more interesting life than I actually do.*

*I feel that the imaginary is crucial to any person that has ever lived.*

**I TOUCH THE MINDS OF THE CHILDREN**

**I HAVE TAUGHT AND CARED FOR.**

*I worry that someday, the people I love will die. I cry every time I see someone I love hurting themselves. I am a person*

**READY TO HELP**

**AND A PERSON**

*full of dreams about the future. I understand that different people have different beliefs. I say that everyone should have the right to express what they believe in. I dream about flying all over*

*the world. I try to be the best person I can possibly be. I hope that someday, it won't be so hard for people just to live their lives.*

*I am a person  
ready to help and  
person full of dreams  
about the future.*

*Kelsey Meier*

## A GRAIN OF TRUTH TAKEN WITH A GRAIN OF SALT

I am a pantomiming charade; I am a double-take

I wonder about someday, yesterday and now,

I hear ricocheting opinions bouncing off the wind-

I see kaleidoscope-star showers when I see the eyes

I want to see without filters, I want to see reality

I am a *pantomiming charade*; I am a double-take

I pretend I am the Overlord with a simple tale to tell

I feel the disguise choking around my throat;

I feel the eyes unbelieving on my back

I touch the burlap holding my bag of gold, my uncarned booty

I worry when the sack snags, unraveling at the seams

I cry when everything falls to ruin, but only for a second

I am a pantomiming charade; I am a *double-take*

I understand that there isn't one way to do everything

I say I specialize in Paradox, Humor and Change

I dream of a place where my views are not a minority

I try to live in a world where I feel alienated, and I do

I hope that others will see the light I see, and they will

I am a *pantomiming charade*; I am a *double-take*.

SKYLAR MOORE

## I am...

I am charismatic and a believer.

I **wonder** when the time will come.

I hear the **applause** and **cheers** of the crowd.

*Until* I see the disappointment in their eyes.

I want to be the best.

I am charismatic and a believer.

## I PRETEND TO PLAY THE ROLE OF A WINNER.

I feel a desire and a passion to compete.

I touch the memories secretly and briefly.

I worry it will never happen.

I cry thinking about the memories.

I am charismatic and a believer.

I understand their decisions--but, I don't want to accept it.

I say, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty  
of their dreams."

I dream of the experience.

I try my best--but always fail.

I hope to make a difference someday.

I am charismatic and a believer.

JORDAN OLSON

**I am confident and musical.**

*I wonder why people tell you to be a kid as long as you can but as soon as you do something immature they tell you to grow up.*

**HEAR TCHAIKOVSKY, BACH, ELLA, AND BASIE: THE SOUNDS OF CLASSICA  
AND JAZZ MIXED TO CREATE THE ODD SOUNDTRACK OF MY LIFE.**

**I see my family, my friends, and sometimes my goal.**

**I WANT CHOCOLATE.**

**I pretend to be in full control.**

**I feel accepted, but yet still out of place.**

**I touch ebony and ivory piano keys, smooth and hard.**

*I worry for my family, my friends, and most often how my choices will affect them.*

**I cry rarely.**

**I AM CONFIDENT AND MUSICAL.**

**I understand that we all make mistakes and must be forgiven.**

**say that Jesus is the one true savior, "and whosoever believeth in him shall not perish and have everlasting life". (John 3:16)**

*I dream of straight A's, first chair, the solo, the lead role, the spotlight.*

**I TRY TO BE OPTIMISTIC AND ACCEPTING.**

*I hope to find love, succeed in life, have children, and go to Heaven.*

**I am confident and musical.**

Shay Dippes

I am

I am furry and warm

I wonder what could be fun about small spaces

I hear experimental scratching

I see little paws

I want to hold the baby

I am furry and warm

I pretend that I'm the cat

I feel curious

I touch the smoothness of paper

I worry about nothing

I cry when I wake from this dream

I am furry and warm

I understand that I can never be the animal

I say I love them

I dream of being one

I try to catch mine

I hope she stays with me tonight

I am furry and warm

Justin  
Roberts

*I Am*

*I am bored and tired. I wonder if we have anything to eat. I hear the tv in the living room. I see my puppy.*

*I want*

*A giant  
Bowl of*

*Ice cream.*

*I am bored*

*And tired.*

*I pretend that*

*I have plans*

*Latter tonight.*

*I feel like*

*Going to the*

*Movies. I*

*Touch*

*Everything. I worry about having no money. I cry when I think about my dog dying. I am bored and tired.*

*I understand that*

*Here*

*Is*

*Nothing*

*To do in Eldridge.*

*I say I want somebody*

*To*

*Come*

*Over.*

*I dream*

*About giant lizards and gold.*

*I try to get to bed by ten*

*I hope*

*I hope*

*I can fall*

*Asleep*

*By two, I am bored and tired.*

Karen

I AM

I am a person with an imagination  
and someone who loves anything to do with Ireland  
I wonder what the greens of Ireland are like I hear the  
accent of the Irish and the bubbling of a brook, I see the  
the sun reflecting off of a clear lake and the stream  
leading into it, I want to go to Ireland and be  
among the Irish, I am a person with  
imagination and someone that  
loves anything to do with

Ireland

I pretend to be among  
the Lepercofins, I feel the luck  
of the Irish flowing from them, I touch  
cool surface of the Lepercofins gold  
through my fingers, I worry that I  
will never be able to visit lushes Ireland  
I cry when I am told that I won't ever  
go there, I am a person with an  
imagination and someone who  
loves any thing to do with Ireland

I understand that imagination  
can take anyone anywhere they  
want to be, I say that imagination is The  
inspired by what someone likes and that as it filters  
anyone can do it, I dream what it would  
be like to be Irish and have an Irish accent  
living in America, I try to make up jokes  
and stories with my imagination to make  
make people happy, I hope I will at  
least go to Ireland someday, I am a  
person with imagination who loves  
anything to do with Ireland

Shane Runza

## *Who I Am...*

I am helpful and hungry for success.

**I wonder about the future.**

*I hear people telling me what to do.*

*I see my whole life ahead of me.*

*I want to have an impact on the world.*

I am helpful and hungry for success.

**I pretend to be stress and worry free.**

*I feel unsure of what will happen next.*

*I touch people's lives every day.*

*I worry about everything.*

*I cry about failure.*

I am helpful and hungry for success.

I understand that nobody's perfect.

**I say that I should be.**

*I dream of influencing lives.*

*I try to do my best in everything.*

**I hope I can help others.**

I am helpful and hungry for success.

Katie Schabilion

## Who I Am...

I am lively and hopeful.

**I** WONDER where the sky starts?

**I** hear the birds sing in the joy of autumn...

*I* see my breath form clouds in the crisp autumn air.

**I** want a steaming cup of hot cocoa to hold in my frost bitten fingers.

I am lively and hopeful.

**I** pretend that I can fly with the wind-blown leaves.

**I** feel the wind kiss my cheeks as it hurries on...

*I* touch the clouds with my exploring eyes.

**I** worry that tomorrow will escape without memory and

**I** cry when life hides true joy.

I am lively and hopeful.

**I** understand that the sky is the limit and my life is just beginning.

**I** say that Jesus has every day of my life planned down to each millisecond.

**I** dream of dancing in mountains of colored leaves and

*I* try to find adventures every day.

**I** HOPE to give my best effort in everything I do.

I am lively and hopeful.

Elisa Stegman

Elisa Stegman

*I AM*

I am unpretentious yet hopeful.  
I wonder what happens when we depart from this life.  
I hear ringing, **in-your-face** silence.  
I see myself wrapped in a *silhouette* of **darkness**.  
I want to SEE and hear everything.  
I am unpretentious yet hopeful.

I pretend that death will **never** happen.  
I feel a rush of cold, raising hairs on my back.  
I touch,

nothing

I worry that we will never be who we are again.  
I cry at the thought of this.  
I am unpretentious yet hopeful.

I understand that we die.  
I say that *we live our lives while we have the time to do so*.  
I dream of coming back to life.  
I try to think of this often.  
I hope that I will be able to live again.  
I am unpretentious yet hopeful.

Steven  
Trent

I am a cheesehead and devoted  
I wonder when our next victory will come,  
I hear Wayne Larrivee and Larry McCaren  
I see a "Green and Gold flood".  
I want one more season for #4  
I am a cheesehead and devoted.

I am a cheesehead and devoted  
I hear the Packer's voice  
I see Green Bay's colors  
I am a cheesehead and devoted  
I am a cheesehead and devoted

I understand I have no say in the franchise  
I say "GO PACK GO!"  
I dream of Packer legends.  
I try to make my voice heard  
I hope we win it all.  
I am a cheesehead and devoted.

*Jason V. Net*

*I am an intelligent blonde  
I wonder about stereotyping  
I hear the meaningless jokes  
I see myself as I truly am  
I want others to recognize  
I am an intelligent blonde*

*I pretend opinions don't affect me  
I feel that the truth will come out  
I touch my hair, and think...  
I worry I'll be mistreated  
I cry at that very thought  
I am an intelligent blonde*

*I understand their misconceptions  
I say looks don't matter  
I dream of time when that's true  
I try to persevere through it  
I hope that soon all will understand  
I am an intelligent blonde*

*Julie Weller*

# I AM

I am *optimistic* and **open-minded**

I wonder why the sky is so **pristinely blue**

I hear the song of fresh *raindrops* f

a

l

i

n

g

from **ABOVE**

I see and immaculate *soft* white **pillow**

I want to **stand** on top of the *clouds*

I am *optimistic* and **open-minded**

I pretend to swim **side-by-side** with dolphins

I feel captivated by the *silvery* blue water

I touch the **sandy** ocean floor

I worry I will be **LOST** out at **sea**

I *cry* for a **friend** who has **disappeared**

I understand the **value** of my own **LIFE**

I say that I will **LIVE ACCORDING** to the plans **God** has for me

I dream of *living* my **future**

I try to live **every moment** as if it were my last

I hope I get an opportunity to **make a DIFFERENCE** in someone's life

I am *optimistic* and **open-minded**

Alex West

I am...

I am charismatic and a believer.

I **wonder** when the time will come.

I hear the **applause** and **cheers** of the crowd.

*Until* I see the disappointment in their eyes.

I want to be the best.

I am charismatic and a believer.

### **I PRETEND TO PLAY THE ROLE OF A WINNER.**

I feel a desire and a passion to compete.

*I touch the memories secretly and briefly.*

I worry it will never happen.

I cry thinking about the memories.

I am charismatic and a believer.

**I understand their decisions**--but, I don't want to accept it.

I say, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty  
of their dreams."

*I dream of the experience.*

**I try my best--but always fail.**

I hope to make a difference someday.

I am charismatic and a believer.

*Williams*

## I AM

I am joyous and full of life.

I wonder if it is possible for me and my friends to have too much fun.

I hear the sound of laughter.

I see the happiness reflect off the faces of my friends.

I want to grow in faith.

I am joyous and full of life.

I pretend that I can CONQUER THE WORLD.

I feel empowered and strong willed.

I touch the lives of others.

I WORRY ABOUT THE ROAD AHEAD.

I cry when I feel afraid.

I am joyous and full of life.

I understand that I cannot change God's plan for me.

I say, "I shall live through his will".

I try to work my hardest to be the best that I can be.

I hope my efforts are worth while.

I am joyous and full of life.

Hope Wilson

## Boyfriends by Abbie Burt

If there's a boy who likes you, ask your friends about their opinions of him; listen to what your friends say about him; but don't rely on their opinions; follow what your heart tells you; love him like there's no tomorrow; don't make fun of him in front of his friends; this is how you respect him; trust each other; be open to talking about problems; be open to compromise, girl; don't make fun of his secrets; listen to what he tells you; give advice and help him, even when he doesn't ask for it; include other people on some of your dates; this is how you find a balance between hanging out with him and your friends; don't let him stray too far away from his old life; don't hurt him on purpose; don't make fun of his friends; be open to hanging out with his friends, for heavens sakes! *But his friends are weird;* let him be bashful and shy because it's cute; don't flirt with him just to tease him, but do tease him a little; have fun with him; don't smash his heart; don't fall for those rippling muscles or long, thick eyelashes; fall in love with him for just being himself; guard your heart jealously; don't let him shatter your heart; this is how you mend a broken heart; don't let the wrong boy have your heart; and when you do find "Mr. Right," give him your heart; let him stand on his own two feet at times; let him make some of the decisions; be responsible; love your parents; listen to their advice because, believe it or not, they've been there before; heed their warnings; laugh at his jokes; be there for him when no one else is; focus on him to make sure that he is happy; this is how you pick out his gift; this is how you give him a gift with love; be interested in what he likes; this is how you embarrass him the right way; smile at him this way and never look cute, but not like a s#&t\*; don't bat your eyelashes at him too much; this is how you protect yourself against guys; don't flirt with other guys than him; make sure you flirt with him just the right amount; don't let him trap you; always be wary of what he is doing; don't let him shatter your heart; it's okay to get frustrated with him, just let him know why: *what if I don't know why I'm mad at him?*; then just tell him, he'll understand; this is how you keep his feet planted firmly on the ground; don't come across as the dumb blond; be open to criticism from him; don't be a total diva, guys hate that; be smart about what you say; don't be too crazy about him, but don't be so distant; don't be clingy; retain your independence; this is how you stay sane without him nearby; don't let him go for no good reason; fight for your man; hold on to that boy tight!

# Brothers

## Chelsea Carroll

Your annoying days are over; don't call me ugly; don't say "your mom"; no old jokes; flush the toilet; clean up your clothes; put your shoes away, no one likes to trip; please put on some deodorant; but I don't smell; don't mimic me; stay away while I am doing my homework; keep the volume on the TV down while I am doing my homework; hit me and I hit you harder, same with kicking; no more lame jokes, they have to be funny; you just don't know what funny is; keep your voices down; stay away when friends are over; don't show off; no lying; keep out of my room; no teasing me; don't ask me questions that I know you already know; don't treat me like I am stupid; but you are stupid; when I ask Mom's advice on something that doesn't mean I want your's too; I am smarter than you considering that I am older; lift the seat up when you go and then set it down when you are done; don't prank call me or my friends; don't pound on my door when you need me; stop walking in on my conversations; what if I have a joke to tell you; do not use my shoes as chew toys for the dog; do not wear my socks; don't come to me and tell me when it is time to leave, that's what parents are for; don't call me names; we're just telling the truth; I don't want to know interesting facts on "Star Wars"; don't burp in my face; please chew with your mouth closed; don't run me over with your mini-bikes; stop watching TV and do something for once; video games are not exercise for your thumbs; I won't lend you money if you won't pay me back; keep your annoying noises to yourself; don't hog the computer for "youtube" when I have homework; share the couch, it's meant for at least three people; stop cleaning out the fridge and pantry, more people live here than just you; keep your toys in your room; do not fart especially when in the car, it's a closed area; men got to do what men got to do; you boys are not men, you're too immature.

# **Hey You With the Face!**

**By: Maria Chickering**

Don't go into high school scared, others will take advantage of it; don't let upperclassmen sell you an elevator pass; treat upperclassmen with respect or you will lose theirs; never talk back to upperclassmen; upperclassmen get to park close to the school, but even they had to park at the tennis courts at one time; if you dare to drive do not park in the wrong spot; the walk from the tennis courts is a long one; this is how you park a car the right way; sidewalks are for walking and you can meander all you want along them; this is how to keep walking in the halls so you won't be called a stupid freshman; this is how to walk the same way as everyone else in the hall so no one will yell "Stupid Freshman" at you; this is how to keep moving at the same pace as others in hallways so you won't be yelled at and tripped; if you are in the hallway while other classes are going on, keep your mouth shut; if you are talking in the hallways during these times others may be tempted to use a freshman zapper on you; don't be afraid of upperclassmen, they don't usually bite; if an upperclassmen is in the same class as you that doesn't mean you are smarter than them— you still respect them; go ahead and take the harder classes— they will pay off in the long run; if you pay attention in class you will succeed; do not dress for attention, it won't get you anywhere; if you are lost ask for directions; get your homework done the day it is assigned, then you can remember the directions you were given and not do 20 problems when you were only assigned 10— and it's easier than procrastinating; *but I hate homework*; most upperclassmen will hate you but don't take it Personally, you are just a stupid freshman;

stop complaining about being a freshman— everyone was at one time and now it's your turn; everyone takes their turn in the lunch line— don't cut; *but they cut me first*; after lunch you will probably have a boring class but pay attention anyway; if you sleep in class make sure the teacher doesn't notice; if you go home after school and go to sleep you are a loser— join some clubs; if you are in band that does not make you a loser, be proud of it— you are a band geek, just face the truth; the truth is that no one really cares if you're wearing a \$100 shirt— they would be more impressed if you got a brand spanking new Lancer sweatshirt; teachers aren't impressed with suck-ups; teachers won't hold it against you if you are late the first day of school— everyone gets lost at one time or another; if you are lost do not get freaked out and start running in circles like a stupid freshman, just remember that the school is a square with a line through it; don't be freaked out by the teachers telling you that their class is the hardest, most intense, time consuming class ever— you will find time to have a life; *but what if it really is as horrible as they say it is*; sometimes horrible, traumatizing events happen— you will laugh at them later; later on in the year you will remember attempting to memorize your locker combination by branding it in your brain and possibly tattooing it on your hand and you will chortle— because after the first week of school you will have it memorized; *I will not have it memorized*; you don't have to memorize much— except what the theme is for the football game this week; football games are a blast but remember to stand in your place— not in the 5th row, cheer, and dress with the theme; don't wear green to a white-out; sometimes you make sacrifices for school spirit but you will have fun and it will pay off; the final most important thing to remember is to have a fabulous time!

# Boy, You Best Hold On To That Girl

By  
Kiera Cotti

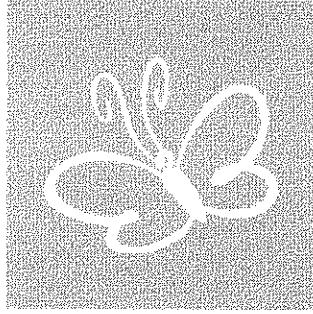
When you love a girl and she loves you—you'll know; do everything you can to keep her close; be supportive—even if she makes more money than you; be her hero because she'll be yours; make her laugh when she's feeling sad; hold her hand when you're out in public; call her when she's feeling sad; call her when you must want to say hi; call her when you're sad; *but I'm a boy and I don't want to show her I'm sad*; she'll love you even more because it shows you trust her; be there for her when she's hurting; always make sure you tell her you love her; don't be mean; don't treat her poorly; make sure she's happy; don't be too controlling; let her hang with other guy friends even when you want to be with her; dance with her when there's no music; *but what if I can't dance*; she'll teach you how; sing to her even when your voice cracks; kiss her in the rain; give her your jacket when she's cold; let her teach you and learn from her; crack jokes even if they're dumb; tickle her when she tells you to stop; let her share your locker; let her meet your family and make sure you meet hers; put her above all other girls in your life; let her fall asleep on your arm because she looks too cute to move; actually listen to her when she talks; ask her for advice; treat her like she's your best friend; tell her she's beautiful, not hot; when you see her in sweat pants and sweatshirt and with no makeup on tell her she's amazing and still gorgeous; don't you dare cheat on her; don't let her dress like a s@#\* to impress you; act smart not stupid; let her be herself and stand on her own two feet but help her be a stronger woman; when you go on a date let her make the choices where you go; double dates are always a blast; share your friends with her; *but what if they think she's cute*; tell them she's yours; don't be afraid to fight for her; don't always wear your shirt because girls like to see your flat stomach; don't worry about the way your body looks—chances are she's more self-conscious about her; show off your beautiful muscles and let her feel your killer abs; hold on to that girl, boy.

## **High School Advice**

**By**

**Nate Curlott**

**Little brother, I have advice for you; I know it will be a couple of years until you're there, but before you know it, you will be in high school; you will be thinking about it so much that your brain will hurt; One of the topmost rules and helpful hints for high school is learning to respect the juniors and seniors, they have been there longer than you and they deserve it; Find close friends to be with throughout high school and don't get involved with the kids who drink and do things that will allow you to slip from your values; You must stick with those values throughout high school and life; Get involved with the school programs and activities to find something that you enjoy; It's good to have something to fall back on and it feels good when there are others who enjoy doing the same things; Try not to find yourself in a trashcan, that's not usually something to be proud of; Girls are and will continue to be confusing, but don't worry about it, you'll find the right one; Respect your teachers and their knowledge, they do know more than you and you can learn hundreds of life lessons from them; *What do I do about Mr. J.?* Even though you think Mr. J. is crazy, he does know what he is talking about and he is a good teacher; believe me, I thought the same things my freshman year; Mainly, freshman year is a fun time and that is what you should do with it, just have fun; With the right friends and a grip on your education, that first year can be one to remember for a lifetime, just remember, stay rooted in your faith and be a light to others and you will make it through high school with flying colors.**



*Sisters*  
*By*  
*Emily Fredericksen*

*Now that you are getting older, you need to try to be less annoying; don't call names when you argue; don't leave your shoes in the doorway for me to trip on them; remember that couches can fit at least three people on them; don't change the T.V. channel that you know I am watching; clean up your clothes; when I ask for mom's advice, that doesn't mean I want yours; but I'm not giving you advice; I'm just answering your questions; if you have a question all you have to do is ask; don't prank phone call me, don't prank phone call my friends; when I have my friends over, don't listen in on our conversations, and just because they are my friends doesn't mean you need to be their friends; don't borrow my clothes and say that you didn't know they were mine; but mom is the one who puts them in my closet; If you want to borrow my clothes, all you have to do is ask; remember that I am smarter than you because I am older; start doing your own homework; don't ask me to lend you money because I know you won't pay me back, don't wear my shoes because you will stretch them out; don't sit in front of the computer checking your comments on "Facebook" when I have a paper to write; don't let your friends come and hang out in my bedroom just because it has good hiding places; if you need help doing your hair on a bad hair day, all you have to do is ask; when I go to a party, that doesn't mean you get to come too; "your mom" jokes aren't funny anymore; don't leave toothpaste in the sink; "your mom" jokes are funny; don't leave your retainers on the counter; don't blast your music so that I can't hear myself think; when you eat the last fruit snack, throw away the box, don't leave it in the cupboard; stop wearing my bobby pins unless you can manage not to lose them; never delete anything of mine from the computer; remember that as you get older, you will eventually have to do your homework; getting good grades should be important to you; don't give in to peer pressure; don't ever doubt yourself and what you can do; start setting goals for yourself; follow your dreams, and remember, if you need my advice, all you have to do is ask.*

Sisters  
by  
Chloe Gumpert

Always put away your clothes; when getting dressed for school, make sure your clothes match; always remember to bring clothes for gym and practice; don't play volleyball in the living room; do homework before watching TV; at school, don't throw your gum on the ground—you may step on it; keep the combination to your locker a secret so nothing gets stolen; don't forget to shut your locker after opening it; in the halls, watch out for opening doors; when walking down steps, make sure you don't forget about the last one; after falling, pick yourself up and keep going; always help friends when they are in trouble; don't lie to friends because they may never forgive you and then you will have no friends; don't spread rumors; when making a peanut butter sandwich, spread butter on the bread before the peanut butter; *But I don't even like peanut butter*; don't eat the bread in the cafeteria—it may be moldy; don't always sit at the same table at lunch; try not to sit in the front of the classroom—the teacher may spit on you; brush your teeth twice a day; don't brush your hair in class because you may whack one of your friends in the face with the brush; don't lie to friends because they may never forgive you and then you will have no friends; this is how you braid hair; this is how you straighten your hair; walk in a straight line in the hallways; it's best to be in the front of the lunch line—the food will be warmer; don't wear a parka in the middle of summer; don't wear shorts in the middle of winter; *Do you think I'm crazy?* When it snows, don't walk fast in the hallways—they will be wet; always dry your hair before leaving the house so you don't get a cold; cover your mouth when you cough so your friends won't get sick; don't lie to friends because they may never forgive you and then you will have no friends; do you want to become one of those people who live alone their whole lives?



Sofia

By

Olivia Hawley

Wash your hands, use soap, sing the alphabet if you need to keep time; make your bed with all the covers, pillows, and sheets; help with the laundry; help out around the house; don't whine; put your clothes in the hamper or in the closet; I said do not whine; I liked that outfit, don't change it; that does not match, but if you insist; be nice to your brother; stop bickering; love your friends and your family; love them so much that you help with the chores; put the dishes away, or load them into the dishwasher; help me clean the kitchen, clear the table, and dry the dishes; don't eat so much junk food; take a healthy snack to school; do your homework, practice your flash cards; *but / don't like math it's too hard*; math is good for you, it will help in the long run; run around at recess; help your friends out when they need it; comfort them when they are down; stay strong for the little girl and her family who are going to lose their mother to cancer; stand up for yourself and those who cannot stand up for themselves; do not ever let yourself be pushed around; you are too sweet and do not deserve to be bullied; no matter what happens we will always love you; your birthmark is special and beautiful, so don't let the people that stare bother you; stand tall, but be humble enough to ask for help if you need it, everyone needs a helping hand every once in a while; you are not in this alone; enjoy being a child, and play with your friends outside; experience the outdoors, don't hole up indoors; make as many snow angels as you can, they will watch over you when you finish; God made you the way you are so embrace your differences; laugh your sweet laugh, smile your adorable smile with earnest; *what does earnest mean?* It means you dance with no hesitation, always be who you want to be and most importantly, love yourself.

# For Her

By: Kaitlin Heinen

Lindsay, you're my sister, who tries to do what the big sister does; I play sports like volleyball, basketball, and track, so you play them too; but if you're in sports just to be with friends and to simply socialize, quit now: high school coaches hate that kind of attitude; my volleyball coach especially does; and since you're much more set on doing volleyball than basketball, I'd start looking at my priorities if I were you; what are your priorities anyway?; I would think coming from a Christian family would make your faith a priority, but I don't see you practicing your faith or being all that involved in church; but I am involved! Gosh, Kaitlin, you think you know everything about me and can tell me what to do; I go to Sunday school and church just like you do! But do you—want—to be there all the time?; do you want—to grow in your faith?; do you—want—to read the Bible every night before you go to bed?; that's what I'm going to challenge you to do: read your Bible more, every night if you can, especially before you get into high school or get confirmed later in the school year; oh boy, confirmations; that's a huge step to take, you know; don't look at it as a graduation because it's far from that; see it as a step forward in your faith, or a promotion; by the way, good job on getting promoted to the competition dance team; I just hope that you'll never have to dance with that evil Sarah; you know I think Sarah's a back-stabbing selfish loser by now, don't you, after hating her for all these years?; yeah, I know, Kaitlin, and I really don't care right now; well, you should care; don't ever think you know someone completely because nobody can do that; I don't even know you as entirely as I think I do; that's another thing: you need to express your true self a little more; don't be fake and do what everyone else does; like eyeliner, ugh! Dear, you have small eyes and black eyeliner is not influenced by others; you're ruled by others way too often, you know; be an individual; do what's best for you; who cares if you can't consider one single person to be your friend; you know you've always got me.

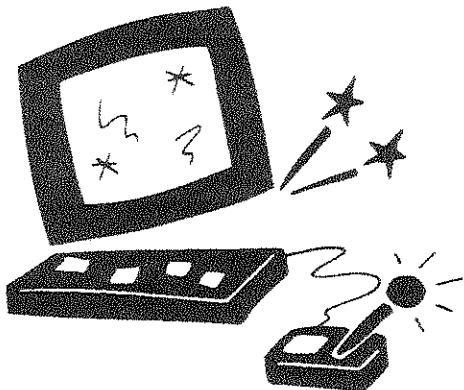
# Dancer

Jessica Jennings

Why aren't you pointing your toes?; extend through your feet and fingers; cover up the blisters on your feet with band aids or you will regret it tomorrow; quit complaining and regretting the past; ice your knee to numb the pain and help with the swelling; hydrate your body with lots and lots of water; eat nutritious foods like broccoli and banana; but I despise vegetables, especially broccoli; do not climb trees-you could tumble back to the ground and injure yourself; always stretch before and after dancing to prevent an injury or lessen the pain you are guaranteed to have; express yourself through your movements in each dance; do not be afraid to show emotion and work those facials; this is how you show excitement; this is how you show anger; emotion and technique are powerful when used correctly; inspire yourself to improve; find inspiration in all that you do-when it is lost it will be hard to continue; dance is hard work, but never give up; always respect others as you do yourself; be responsible for your actions and respectful to other's decisions-your mother may not always be by your side to instruct you; treat yourself and your family well-you cannot get rid of them, so you might as well let them help you practice; practice, practice, practice even on things you can not do well; practice the way you want to perform; this is how to perform a dance so your friends don't laugh at you; this is how to hip hop so you look ghetto and not like a city slicker trying to be gansta'; you may not get something now, but keep working at it; dance is hard work, but never give up; pull up to get that extra turn; do not look down at the floor, the floor shows you nothing but the space in which you move, chin up....always; this is how you get up after tripping without looking embarrassed in front of others; this is how to call for someone if you trip and break a bone; don't break your body line or someone will tape a pencil to you; keep the seam line on your pink tights straight as a pencil; never put tights on when you are wet, they stick to your legs and rip at the crotch; never change clothes out in the open, you never know who is watching; choose undergarments that will not leave panty lines; those types of underwear go to far up the rear and it becomes really uncomfortable; this is how to get uncomfortable wedgies out in front of people without digging; this is how to dance outside your comfort zone; this is how you eat 30 minutes before activities; this is how you wash your face before applying any stage makeup; always wash your mouth and brush your teeth after every meal; it takes more muscles to frown than it does to smile; laugh whenever you can until your whole body hurts; dance with your whole heart and express the excitement and joy you can't keep bottled up; enjoy your life and what you have, but most of all, have fun.

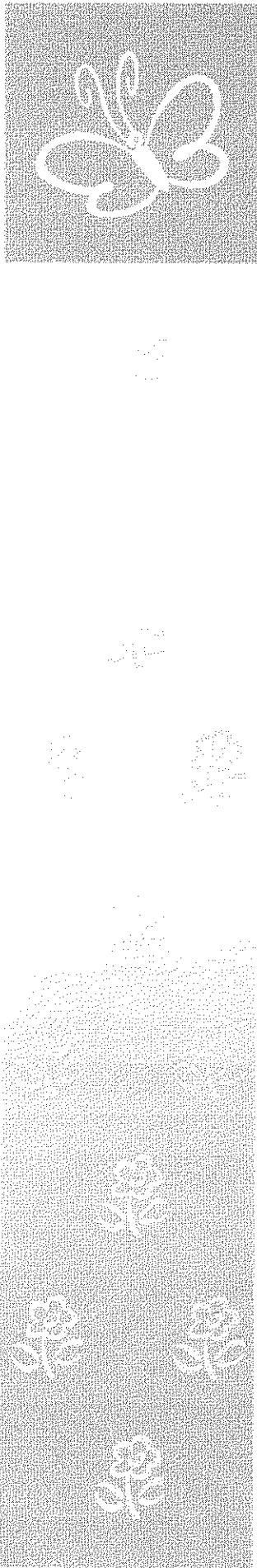
# ADVICE FOR PEOPLE THAT PLAY HALO OR HALO 2

By Joel Johnson



Halo 1 for campaign mode, the pistol and assault rifle kill almost every enemy as long as your accuracy is good; the grunts basically watch as you kill them; the elites actually know how to shoot so they are kind of a threat; hunters on Halo 1 are not too much of a problem as long as you throw a few plasma grenades at them; the plasma grenade is also good for taking out packs of grunts; you throw it at one and he runs back to his team calling for help just as the grenade is about to blow up; this usually kills more than two guys

because of the explosion, which looks really cool; this little trick works until the level where the flood guys start showing up, then you have to switch to an assault rifle or shotgun based plan since the flood are immune to most energy attacks; hide behind anything you can, taking cover is always better than standing in the open; getting shot at and dying never helps a team; even beating Halo 1 is not enough to show skill, *But it was so hard!* Versus mode is where the skill really shows. Halo 2 has a better versus mode; the map pack is a must have, *But I don't have it!* Well then, find a friend that does; Lockout is a good level for online, at least that's what a lot of people say, and it does not require the map pack; Ascension is a good level for me to play, super jump to top of level and snipe, How much easier can it get? One or two snipers on that level, one is right by the super jump; getting killed for using the super jump is kind of dumb; yeah, the game kills you for cheating; try sniping without scoping in on the guy, hard, isn't it? Well, people can do it, so watch out for some insanely good sniping; if you think the other person is looking at your screen, find someone that has another Xbox and television and get a linked battle going; they cannot peek then; if the guy is still getting good shots, he really is good; there is always room for improvement on this game; go through campaign mode on both games on Heroic difficulty; if it is hard, you need to get better; some people can go through the first game on legendary with little trouble; believe me, I'm one of them; here's a way to snipe good, here's a trick to kill someone with their own grenade, here's how to get a plasma grenade off to you, here's how to kill an opponent easily; this is something hilarious to do after you kill them, this is how to snipe without being seen, this is how to find a sniper, this is how to get a high jump, this is how to do an easy headshot, this is how to blow up a grenade in the air, this is how to make it look like you're in the wall, this is how to stay up all night just to play Halo, this is how to get your parents mad at you for staying up all night, this is how to get out of trouble for staying up all night, *I wouldn't even stay up all night in the first place!* So you mean that I just wasted the last few lines explaining something that isn't going to help anyways? Well, then, you are not going to get anymore help from me! *I'm sorry!* Okay, well, you still are not getting anymore help because that was all the help I could give you!



# Emily

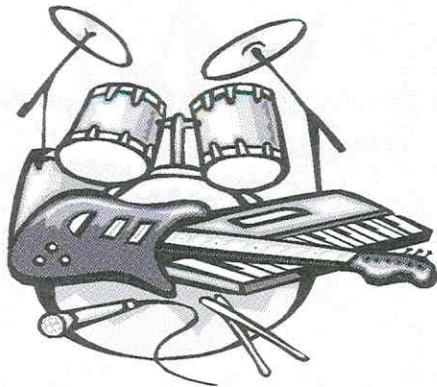
## Alexandra Kolwey

This is how to make great high school memories: make sure to make good friends; make friends who won't pressure you into doing inappropriate and dangerous activities; make friends who will support you through everything you do; make friends who you can trust to keep your secrets; make friends who will be there for you when you're down; make friends who will laugh at you because you've done something dumb-like slipped on the water from the drinking fountain and fallen on your butt; only you would do something like that; don't be afraid to make mistakes because you'll make plenty of them; don't be afraid to be who you are; plenty of people will love you for that; remember that just because "all of the other girls have those new super cute flip flops" doesn't mean you have to have them too; *but I hate wearing flip flops!*; be original and don't go with the flow; don't ever, eve, ever sell yourself short because no one is alike; everyone has something unique and special about them; don't ever compare yourself to those perfect preppy girls; not one of them is perfect; who wants to be perfect anyway?; remember that you don't have to get perfect scores on every single paper you hand in; do your homework the day you get it and you won't fall behind; when you are studying before each test, make sure to never study with your friends because you won't get anything done and you will fail; get your band lessons done early in the quarter otherwise you won't get them finished and you will fail; make sure you're on time for class or you'll end up with a detention; remember to bring your gym clothes for strength training or you'll get a detention; don't slack off in strength training and do what you're told; remember, coach J isn't speaking Swahili; behave in his class or you'll have to do push ups; this is how the LP kids behave; this is how to turn down a date to homecoming without hurting the other person's feelings; this is how to make new friends; *but I already have friends*; well if your friends decide they want to become different people or aren't in any of your classes then what are you going to do?; this is how to carry your books so that you don't drop them in the hallways; this is how to push your way through the hallways when the freshman are all in the way, and you had better not be one of those freshmen; remember that high school is supposed to be the best four years of your life; make sure to have the time of your life and experience it to its fullest; don't hold yourself back; be who you are; that's all anyone expects you to be; it doesn't matter what you look like or who your friends are; be confident in yourself and you'll go far; do whatever you want to do in high school because you'll only be in it once, at least you had better only be in it once.

# Son

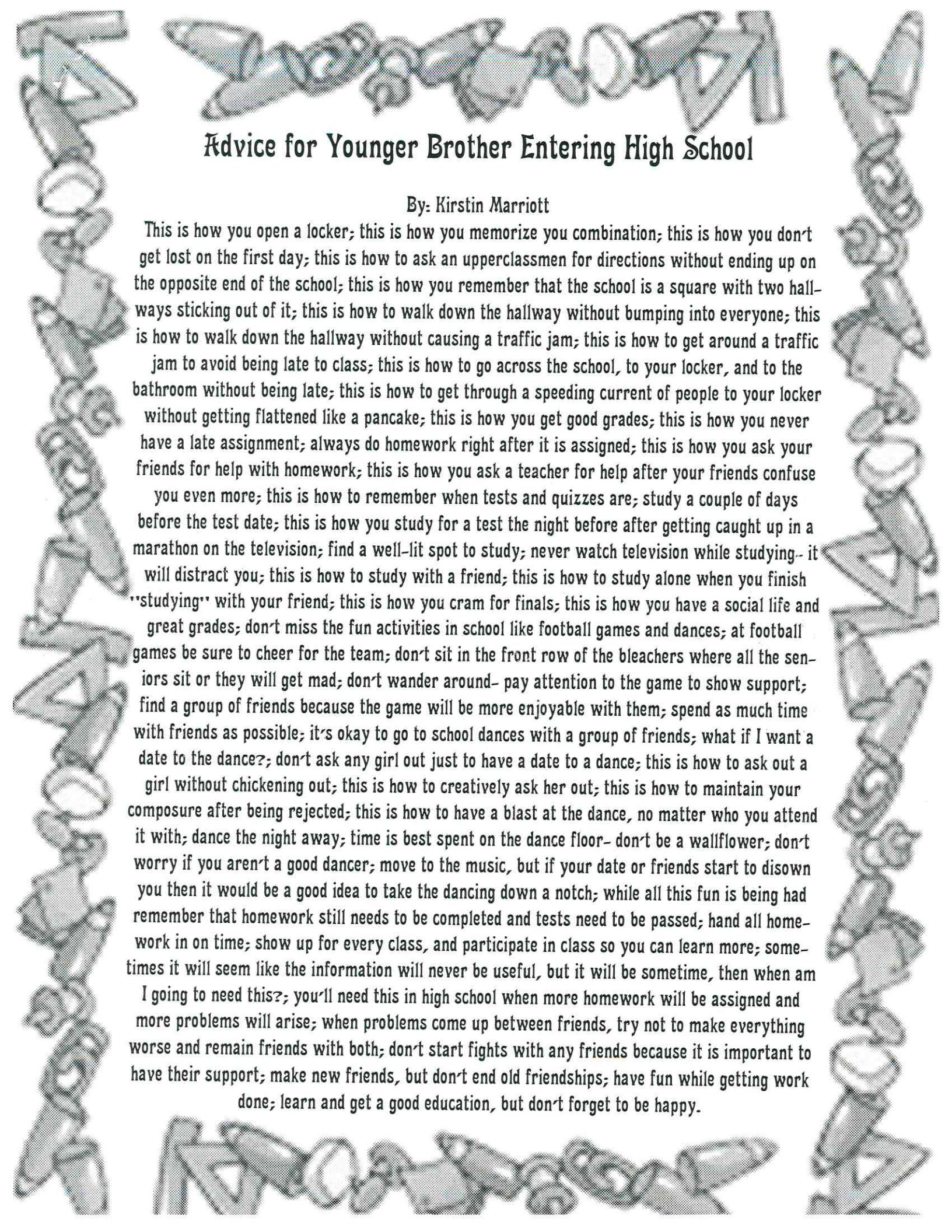
By: Sean Lovellette

This is how to throw a punch; this is how to dodge a punch; if you can't dodge a punch here's how to take a punch - always open the door for a woman - don't ever hit a woman, even if she tries to fight you; don't start a fight, but if you're ever in one you'd better finish it; sit up straight so you don't get mild scoliosis; don't ever let anyone walk all over you; don't let a bully push you around; stand up straight like you have some confidence, don't wear shorts in the woods or you'll get poison ivy - don't scratch it if you do get poison ivy; this is how to cut the grass; this is how to rake the grass clippings that your granddad will undoubtedly make you pick up at his house; don't worry if you don't do it right - he'll show you how; don't cut the grass on a rainy day; this is how to shoot your first deer; this is how to gut a deer; this is how to wait for a deer you've shot to die so you don't lose it; don't get upset if a magician shrinks the cake at your fourth birthday party - it's not real; don't run your bike into a mailbox, or a car, or a stop sign; if your mom tells you to do something, do it, no matter how ridiculous it is; this is how to pretend to like food that a woman has made; this is how to pretend to pay attention to something someone is saying that is boring; this is how to do something last minute that you put off; this is how to catch a fish; this is how to clean a fish; this is how to talk to someone you don't like; this is how to talk to someone you don't know; this is how to talk to someone you do like, and you do know; don't shoot out the windows of a train with a bb gun - you might be caught; when you get married make sure its to the right person; this is how to get a girl to like you; this is how to see if a girl likes you without getting hurt; don't ever do drugs or smoke; this is how to make me proud.



## MAKING THE BAND BY DANIEL MARCEAU

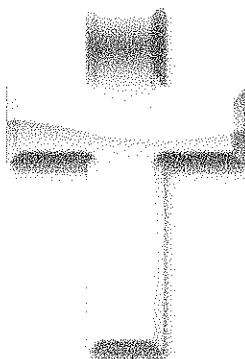
Listen to music, take it all in; listen to each distinct part; learn to play an instrument; get really good at playing it; find a friend who also plays in instrument; start to write a song with your friend; this is how you put it to music; just let the song-writer go with their idea; get a great guitar part; make the drums simple; don't try to do too much on a song; this is when you need to think about getting a bass player; make sure it's a good one, the bass keeps everyone together; get together to write music for your songs; find a time to practice; find a place to practice; this is how you convince your mom the basement is the perfect place to practice; this is how you fit two guitarists and a drum set into one, small room; this is how you just sit around, thinking of the songs to write; this is how you take your own ideas and make them into stories; this is also where you make up your own songs; *why do you make stuff up?*; because you are young, and don't have a lot of experiences to write about; this is how you write a whole song without any swearing, drinking, or drugs; this is how you persuade your parents into buying your band a digital recorder; this is how to try to be fair when criticizing someone's work; this is how you take criticism; make sure you have fun; know the time to joke around, and the time to really practice; *when do we hit it big-time?*; first you need to practice; this is how you talk your parents into letting you rehearse every other day; this is also how you bring up the idea of performing at the school talent show; don't forget a catchy name; make it meaningful and easy to remember; this is how you spread the news of your band at school; this is how to handle people asking about your band; this is how you carefully bring up the idea of adding another guitar player; now you have to rewrite all you music to add a back-u[ guitarist; this is how, the week before the talent show, you get down to business; practice hard, but don't be too nervous; finally, this is how to go out and rock!



## Advice for Younger Brother Entering High School

By: Kirstin Marriott

This is how you open a locker; this is how you memorize your combination; this is how you don't get lost on the first day; this is how to ask an upperclassmen for directions without ending up on the opposite end of the school; this is how you remember that the school is a square with two hallways sticking out of it; this is how to walk down the hallway without bumping into everyone; this is how to walk down the hallway without causing a traffic jam; this is how to get around a traffic jam to avoid being late to class; this is how to go across the school, to your locker, and to the bathroom without being late; this is how to get through a speeding current of people to your locker without getting flattened like a pancake; this is how you get good grades; this is how you never have a late assignment; always do homework right after it is assigned; this is how you ask your friends for help with homework; this is how you ask a teacher for help after your friends confuse you even more; this is how to remember when tests and quizzes are; study a couple of days before the test date; this is how you study for a test the night before after getting caught up in a marathon on the television; find a well-lit spot to study; never watch television while studying- it will distract you; this is how to study with a friend; this is how to study alone when you finish "studying" with your friend; this is how you cram for finals; this is how you have a social life and great grades; don't miss the fun activities in school like football games and dances; at football games be sure to cheer for the team; don't sit in the front row of the bleachers where all the seniors sit or they will get mad; don't wander around- pay attention to the game to show support; find a group of friends because the game will be more enjoyable with them; spend as much time with friends as possible; it's okay to go to school dances with a group of friends; what if I want a date to the dance?; don't ask any girl out just to have a date to a dance; this is how to ask out a girl without chickening out; this is how to creatively ask her out; this is how to maintain your composure after being rejected; this is how to have a blast at the dance, no matter who you attend it with; dance the night away; time is best spent on the dance floor- don't be a wallflower; don't worry if you aren't a good dancer; move to the music, but if your date or friends start to disown you then it would be a good idea to take the dancing down a notch; while all this fun is being had remember that homework still needs to be completed and tests need to be passed; hand all homework in on time; show up for every class, and participate in class so you can learn more; sometimes it will seem like the information will never be useful, but it will be sometime, then when am I going to need this?; you'll need this in high school when more homework will be assigned and more problems will arise; when problems come up between friends, try not to make everything worse and remain friends with both; don't start fights with any friends because it is important to have their support; make new friends, but don't end old friendships; have fun while getting work done; learn and get a good education, but don't forget to be happy.



# Advice to any Christian on How to Survive High School

By  
Megan Martin

For anyone to survive High School, in the first place they must, or at least think, that they need to have friends; now it would be wise of you to chose friends that don't drag you down or cause you to lose touch in your relationship with God, such as friends that don't do drugs, don't smoke, don't drink, don't lie to their parents, don't mess around with their boyfriend/girlfriend, attend church regularly and have a relationship with God to some extent, and you most certainly cannot be straddling the fence; where there is one half of you saying that you want to commit a relationship to God, but then the other half of you is still on the other side of the fence still clinging to your old friends; but if your so-called friends are just bringing you down in general, then you need to bring them to church with you, or sad to say, you need to go find new friends; *But I can't just up and find new friends in a heartbeat, where would I look for new ones?*; if you've got a boyfriend or girlfriend then the same thing applies plus more, you need to focus on staying pure with that person in more ways than just the obvious one, if you are a girl then you should try to dress appropriately, modestly, or non "sexy" or non "hot"; if the outfit that you are wearing would turn a guy's head then you probably should not have worn it, but then if you are a guy, you don't have to worry about that too much, just keep your pants up, dress appropriately, and stop hitting on us girls left and right; for those of you who might be in a boyfriend/girlfriend relationship already, take into consideration if what you two are doing is something that you would not want your parents or your pastors to see, then you probably should not be doing it, you can hold hands or hug and on special occasions, yes, sure, a little kiss, but other than that you should be hands off to set an example to the couples around you that are trying to strive through their relationship; *I didn't know that other couples look at how a Christian's relationship is to see what they can and cannot do...*; never be afraid to get made fun of for sticking up for one of your friends, or maybe just some other kid that you don't really know all that well; always do what is right, never, never cheat, steal, lie, cuss, drink, smoke or anything of that nature; always make sure that you are kept up with your schoolwork, that you don't fall behind; try not to get caught up with gossip, if you hear a rumor, stop it, don't spread it; and then the most important of all, find a good church and a good youth group to go to and stick with it; find good strong Christian friends at school and at church, even if they might not be a part of the "cool" crowd; make sure that you always stay active in your church, and always remember, whatever you do always keep God first.

# A Sister's Advice For High School

By  
Kelsey Meier

Remember, the upperclassmen always have seniority, that's why the seniors are called seniors; Be smart when they tell you to do something because sometimes you don't actually have to do it; I know they were freshmen once, too, but don't mention that—they don't care; This is how to be visible and invisible at the same time—don't run into people in the hallways; don't clog the halls or people will yell at you—everyone has a place to be; This is how to walk fast enough to get from the Pit to your locker to M Hall within five minutes; This is how to open your locker so your friends won't shut it; This is how to open your locker wide enough to get your supplies but not so wide that the person next to you can't open their locker; Don't forget to say "Excuse me" when there's someone in front of your locker; In general, be kind.

You won't get lost, the high school is a square with a line through it; There's also K for Science and M for Music; *Science doesn't start with a K*, I know, just trust me; No matter what people tell you, there are no elevators in the school—Dad's lying to you when he tells you where to get an elevator pass; Only ask people you trust where things are because some people will lie to you; Teachers will gladly help you around the school; This teacher is very forgiving; This teacher is very strict; This teacher is evil; That teacher was my favorite; These teachers give really hard tests; These teachers use homework problems for tests, so do your homework; These teachers have a comfortable classroom; These teachers want it always to be silent.

Always be yourself, and don't compromise who you are; Show pride in your school, even if you don't think anyone else will; participate in Homecoming week; Go to the dance with someone you actually like—bad things happen if you don't; Remember Silky Shirt Guy? Don't start any drama, it's only high school and it won't matter when you get out of here; Classes matter when you get out of here—good grades equals good college which equals good job; here's how to study; this is how to balance school with a social life; This is how to dress so people don't think you're a s#@\*; This is how to not have a mental breakdown; Never overload yourself; Join a club you're interested in, and truly interested in; You should've stayed in band; Make as many friends as you can; Learn, laugh, love, and enjoy your high school years, my sister!

Advice for the Advice-ee  
By  
Skylar Moore

When waking up in the morning, take a minute and a half to remember your dreams; daydreaming can lead to distractions, but distractions can be healthy; If you see a kitten, scratch it behind its ears, even if it looks feral and unhealthy; remember that the ones that are the toughest to love are often most the ones who need love the most; tough love is something everybody needs at some point; Always greet people warmly, even if they're sweaty; always wear a warm sweater and drink hot cocoa on rainy days; when caught in the rain, don't be afraid to jump into rain puddles; listen to and appreciate the musical genius of Gene Kelly and always Sing in the Rain; respect your elders, always; respect your body and never hurt anyone else; never forget your first romance. — *What if it's worth forgetting?* — Nothing is ever worth forgetting! Mistakes are learning, silly! On the glorious topic of nostalgic romance, use the word "twitterpated" in daily speech when and if daily speech calls for it; speak politely and appear to be confident, even if you don't feel it all the time; hold your chin high and keep your back straight when you walk; remember that you own yourself, and that you are your own person; dress brightly and originally, foolish person! Distrobe of your bland, funky-odored swaddling cloth! If Robert Smith can wear a black velvet dress to school just for kicks in England in the late 60's, so can you! — just to shock everyone! You know you want to & If you see someone with the genius of Robert Smith, for he is he "unkempt poster child of gloom and doom." Appreciate the beauty of the words "Afternoon Snack" and don't give me a strange look for that. Eat three square a day, but you may want to file the corners down a little bit; corners may cut up the intestine a little bit; Know your anatomy, for that ache in your side may or may not have something to do with a square meal lodge in your appendix; what if the appendix has been removed or is empty? Lay in the empty streets during the witching hour; occasionally walk blindly into traffic to remember your own mortality; love completely, feel fully, and die happy; be cheerful and courteous to every telemarketer, they probably hate their job as much as you do; don't eat cheese wiz directly from the can, no matter how tempting it is; goldfish crackers are evil, for anything that smiles wickedly while you eat it has to be a bit messed up in its crunchy, deliciously golden head; keep your eyes open and your—wickedly smiling—mouth closed and maybe, just maybe, you might learn something.

# Mom's Advice

by

## Jordan Olson

Go to bed early so you get plenty of rest; drink ample amounts of water to keep your skin hydrated and clear; use sunscreen to protect your skin from getting burnt; to protect yourself, walk in a group—there's always safety in numbers; memorize only important telephone numbers, otherwise your mind will get cluttered; Keep your room clean—you never know who might show up unannounced; but I'm too busy to clean my room; always be prepared for the unexpected; stay up to date on homework assignments so that you are ready for pop quizzes; always do your homework in a quiet place so that you are able to concentrate; after you finish your homework, find something relaxing to do before going to bed; if you can't sleep at night read a book for a short while; use a night light when it is dark so that you don't fall; if the sunlight wakes you in the morning, close your blinds; mornings can be hectic, so establish a morning routine and wake up early; but I don't like waking up early; don't arrive at an event "fashionably" late; wear clothes that are age appropriate—you're not in a rap video; make sure to wrap leftovers tightly so they don't get moldy; wash your hands often so you don't get sick; lend a helping hand to a person in need; if you let a friend borrow something of yours, make sure to get it back; when walking on ice, watch your step or you might fall on your behind; this is how to fall gracefully; this is how to laugh at yourself when you do something embarrassing; don't make fun of people—they have feelings too; try your best on everything and never give up; when trying on clothes, make sure you don't leave makeup stains; don't overdue the blush and the lipstick—you're not a clown; make sure to return library books on time, you don't want a late fee; if you are late, don't make excuses; but it was all your fault; say "excuse me" when you belch or run into someone; exercise often so you stay fit; eat fruits and vegetables every day; always chew with your mouth closed; make an effort to brush your teeth after every meal; this is how to brush the tangles out of your hair; this is how to tie a knot so it doesn't come undone; when you have a loose tooth, don't put a string around it and fasten it to a door; be polite and hold the door open for the person behind you; when you are at a fancy restaurant, use proper table manners; put the fork to the left of the plate in a table setting; make sure to renew your license plate on time; always carry a form of identification with you; follow through with your promises; don't make promises you can't fulfill; but I can't remember all of that; you mean that you were actually going to listen?

# A Friend

By: Shane Rumpza

This is how to look at people, never judge before you know someone; this is how you shake hands with people you meet, make sure it's a firm grip; you should smile all the time, just because you're having a bad day doesn't mean you need to dampen other people's moods; this is how you say your sorry dont ever say it if you don't mean it: always look someone, who you are talking to, in the eyes so they know you are lisening; this is how you make a joke, if no one laughs at it, laugh anyway-don't let them know if you feel bad or embarrassed; goof off, you can't be serious all the time; this is how you hide hurt and talk to the person when you're alone with them; This is how you get a date for a dance, always do something cool when you ask them; treat them with respect, and spend a lot of time with them at the dance- trust me I know; but I know how to get a date and how to treat her; tell your date she looks pretty- dont forget to do that; talk to people and say hello and goodbye to people; try out for a sport; show confidence when you have none, for I know you are shy and scared of talking to people and making new friends; smile through sadness; and anger; say you are doing alright. bad. sad, of happy when you are feeling that way; keep secrets and learn to trust someone else; try to solve a proelm before it becomes a fight; this is how to throw a punch and this is how to dodge a punch; make new friends- its always good to have alot of friends; push shyness away and introduce a friend to another friend, for I know you are shy and scared of talking to people and of making new friends; make sure to always say please and thank you; if you never hurt a friend apologize; always treat friends with respect; now you are ready to make new friends.

# For Anyone Who Wants to Teach Young Children

## Katie Schabillion

When you teach young children, you must make things fun—how am I going to do that?—snacks are wonderful, and so is coloring; play games to keep them interested and paying attention, but make sure they're not completing against each other; try to let them get up and moving if possible, because children get bored easily if all they do is sit; use silly songs and dances to get the kids involved in what you're teaching, like if the class is learning the alphabet, you write it on the board and ask them to copy it; also set examples of how to be nice to people; make the kids like you by being nice to them, because they will listen better if they respect you; in order to gain their respect, you have to respect them by treating them politely; in order for them to respect you as an adult and the person in charge, you have to follow through if punishment is necessary; don't make punishment extremely harsh, just enough to let them realize they did something wrong; give rules in a positive form, instead of saying you can't do this, say you can do this; rewards work to get them to do what you want them to; you have to let the young people know you want to have fun, but they need to learn, too; don't make the material too difficult, because they'll stop trying, but don't make the material too easy either, because they won't concentrate; make sure you keep them fascinated, otherwise they'll lose focus and stop trying; attempt to inspire good habits and teach the kids how to become good adults; show the kids you care about them; don't be cold and unfeeling towards them, because they'll like you better if you like them; try to help them do well, because they're only in preschool or kindergarten; don't treat them like adults because they're not! And last but definitely not least, always be positive!

## To Be a Friend

By

Elisa Stegman

Always start the day with a smile on your face; think of how loved you are, first by your family, and then your friends; more friends will come to you, you can count on that; keeping friends may be harder than making them though; knowing when to keep them company, or when they need to be alone; knowing when to lead and when to follow; knowing when to tell secrets, and who to tell them to; knowing the best time to be quiet and the best times to be loud; knowing details about your friends from what they love and hate, too; what they are allergic to and what makes them laugh; this all takes time to know someone this well; believe me, you have plenty of time; this is how to pick friends: don't try to be someone other than who you are to fit into a group, because you are already so unique and you don't need to conform; conforming is like wearing a mask that is not your own, you only can fake life for so long; it will catch up to you; your true friends will be drawn to your personality, you don't need to change it; also, don't call everyone you meet your best friend; I don't know her name yet, but she is my new best friend! Yes, you need to know her name; after learning their names, to keep friends you have to be an even better friend; let them know that you are there for them, let your friends know that you want to be with them, always enjoy the moments you have with your friends. After all this, sister, learn to be confident in who you are; remember how much you are loved and friends will be drawn to you; most of all, do not look for yourself in your friends; do not compare yourself to them; you have your own identity; don't be afraid to stand out.

Untitled  
By  
Steven Trent

Rethink what you're doing; try to make your job less stressful than it already is; make sure you get their order right and put the money in when the customer hands it to you; make sure to say hello; help customers if they need it—put yourselves in your kids' shoes; realize that they know that you need a break just as much as you do—*yeah, I already know that; it's just hard for me to relax lately*—everyday you have off make your kids to chores for you and just let yourself relax for the limited time you have—ask the customers if that is all they're going to get; grab the candy and accessories they want; scan their movie, candy, and put their ice cream into the computer; grab a cup, put the protector on, fill with ice cream; 2 scoops for medium and mix—while playing solitaire think of when you get off how you will relax at your home—gather recently turned in movies; check to make sure they have the right discs; scan the movies that were just turned in; make sure that the computer reads the correct movies after every time you scan; this is how to put the movies back where they belong—think of what you are going to do when you close up or when you get home—try to keep on task while there are customers in the store—rerun the dryer when you get home to ensure no wrinkles; remind kids to get their homework done earlier tomorrow and to brush their teeth before they go to bed; try to keep relaxed all of the time you are off work, unless need be; brush your own teeth before you go to bed; make sure you tell your children goodnight before they go into their rooms and stay up later than what you told them; but most of all, relax.

# Advice to my Brother

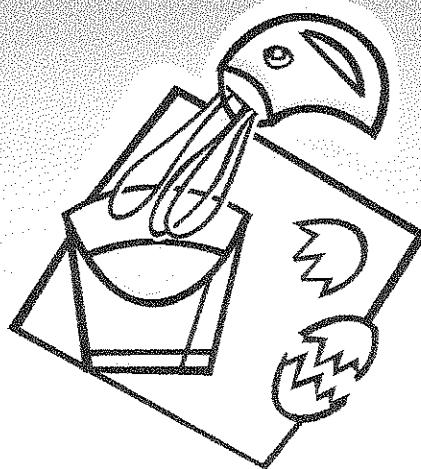
By: Aaron Viner

This is how you set the VCR to tape the Packer game so I don't have to keep telling you; This is how you are able to watch the Packer game after it's done taping; this is how you get extremely angry when the Cardinals are loosing; *But it's just a game*; This is how you cheer Brett Favre's touchdown to Donald Driver; This is how you celebrate the Packer's win; this is how you get really upset when looking towards our opponent next week; This is how you learn to play football on the Playstation two; this is how Final Fantasy 9 is a great game; This is how you realize homework is more important than video games, take it from someone who knows; *You're kidding me*; This is how you learn to love Scrubs, one of the best shows on TV today; This is how you record Scrubs when you have homework; *I guess I should do that*; don't try to waste as much time as you can before you begin; don't be easily distracted; *penguins are awesome*; yes, penguins are awesome, but they don't help your homework; *I know; but they amuse me greatly*; This is how you learn that Mondays stink; This is how Fridays are the best; don't forget to practice your marching band music; This is how you practice your marching; don't screw off in class-sometimes the teachers have something important to teach you; *I try not to screw off*; if your parents ask you if your homework is done, don't lie so you can watch more TV; This is where you learn the fine line of joking around and harassing someone-not all your friends realize you are joking; This is why you don't need a girlfriend; it's not all it's cracked up to be; experience is how you learn that you are going to be rejected by about half the girls you ask; *why do you say that?*; just trust me.

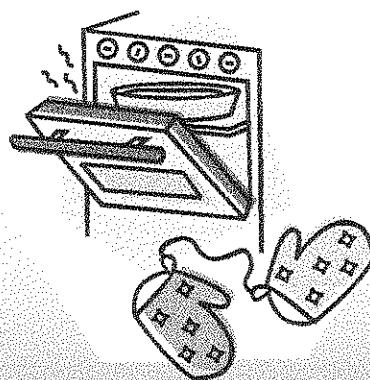
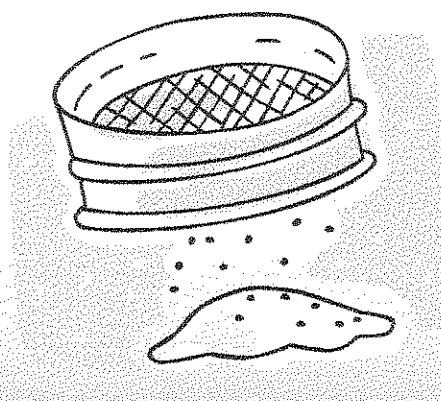
# Baking

By  
Julie Warner

Always preheat the oven before you start working on a recipe; get out all the ingredients before you cook with them—you might not have everything; if you're out of butter, use shortening and salt; use egg whites instead of yolks to make the dish less



Fattening; never let part of an egg shell fall into your bowl; a whirling electric beater in the air is good for no one; after you finish mixing a cake batter, always share the beaters; don't eat too much cookie dough; don't let your brother eat too much cookie dough—when he feels sick, he'll incessantly blame you; keep concentrated on the recipe or you could skip a part; don't feel bad if you do skip a part, your family will still appreciate it, just be more careful next time; this is how you keep all of your fingers while cautiously using a knife; if you drop one, let it fall; wipe up spilled water right away so that no one will slip; drink water while you're baking so your stomach will think it's full—otherwise you'll eat too much; no matter how good a cake looks, never wolf the whole thing down yourself; invite friends to bake with you; don't hog all the fun parts and make them clean; let them spread the frosting while you wash the dishes; *but I absolutely, positively hate washing dirty dishes!*; get over what you hate for the sake of your friends; this is how you share when you want to keep it all to yourself; this is how you pretend to want the smallest piece; don't overlook small things, if you forget a small amount of spice, your entire recipe might taste different; this is how you taste test your recipe without getting your germs in it; never put your fingers in a batter; never put your bare hands on a hot surface; the scorching pain from the oven or stovetop could ruin all the fun of baking, and isn't it the fun what it's all about?



# The Morning Routine

By: Alexandrea West

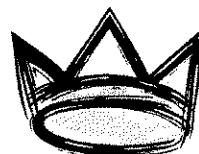
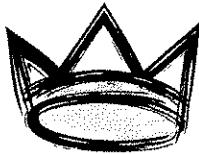
Get up when the alarm goes off; don't press the snooze button one too many times; you won't have time to make your bed and fold the blankets; you'll want your room looking nice when you come home; your clothes should also look sharp; pick out a clean pair of pants and some good shoes; you just got new shoes last Thursday; they would match well with the shirt you got at Christmas from Grandma; she used to be a beautician; make her proud and comb your hair, please; it will be a mess after the way you move in your sleep; don't forget to wipe off the sink because it will be covered in water after trying to get those stray hairs flattened; mom will wonder who made such a mess; its better to hear it from me now then from mom later; I'm not allowed to ground you; once I skipped breakfast and was told that my brain wouldn't function well if it ever happened again, so go into the kitchen to find something healthy to eat; maybe a bowl of oatmeal and some fresh fruit; pour some milk in a cup, and you will be starting the day off an a good note; remember, pop tarts are not a necessity for life; there's only one thing left to do; while walking out of the house don't forget that mother says to drink lots of water; *but if I drink too much water I'll have to go to the bathroom, and I'll be late to science class.* Don't drop your books on the way out, or you'll be out of luck for that good ol' science class; if you find yourself in a rush just stop and think of what you need; most likely you'll remember that you didn't say goodbye to your sister; she loves you very much; run back in the house, and tell her you love her too; but don't shout it from down the hall; you will wake up the dog; he will bark like a crazy maniac at the neighbor's giant dogs; he thinks he can pick a fight with them; the arguments between you and your sister are very minimal; it's always comforting to know that they aren't gonna last long; now go ahead and tell her that you will see her at the end of the school day; *oh I hope she's not late to pick me up;* your sister is never late; you are just always early.

Untitled  
By  
Marissa Williams

Never ask anybody for anything you don't need, you might not always get what you want but you always get what you need, being yourself is the best way to live your life—getting in trouble is part of life, fess up to your mistakes and admit your faults, honesty is always the best policy; say things that matter and listen to those who offer their advice, but this is how you pretend you don't care, but listen to your friends even when it's not interesting; friends before guys always, don't show off your assets to everybody even though the other girls do, being a S#!\* will get you nothing but a bad rep, keeping your legs closed reduces the risk of having a baby by 100%, clean up your mess as soon as you make it, don't procrastinate be the hardest worker you can be, it's not attractive to make people hate you—accept the fact that life isn't perfect, everybody has flaws even yourself, putting people on a pedestal will get you disappointed, you'll lose your friends and make new ones, and your old ones will probably become your enemies—*I could never hate my best friend*—be wise with your money and don't buy that t-shirt that is uber cute but also is \$80, don't be a cheap date but don't be the date that orders shrimp and steak—don't use food as a crutch eat because you're hungry not because you are sad—talk out your problems and never hold it all inside, bottled up anger=more problems, blaming people for your problems also creates more problems, don't cheat anybody out of anything and don't cheat on anybody; when you break up with somebody remember how bad it hurt to be broke up with so be nice; don't do it over the phone or by email or by text message; always break up face to face even though it may be extremely difficult; it's okay to show emotions to others and have emotions shown to you, if he cries when you dump him don't laugh too loud or too much in front of him; try to comfort people when they need it, treat others how you want to be treated even when it's hard—forgive those you don't want to because one day you will need to be forgiven too—everything comes around so watch your back karma sucks, do what makes you happy, just live, love, laugh.

# JESUS IS MY MAIN MAN

MARIA BIDDICK



I MET A CATHOLIC PRIEST AT NOON  
HE TOLD LIFE OF MAN THROUGH A TERRIFYING TUNE  
    THE MAN WAS BORN  
        IN A MANGER 'FOR MORN'  
        EVEN YEARS AFTER BIRTH  
    MAN HAD MORE THAN PROVEN HIS WORTH  
        BY HEALING THE BLIND  
        AND KEEPING A ZEN PEACE OF MIND.  
        BUT PEOPLE GOT VIOLENT  
    AND WOULD NO LONGER STAY SILENT  
        SO ANGRY WITH RAGE  
    MAN WAS WHIPPED IN A CAGE  
        MOCKED WITH A CROWN  
        AND BEATEN TO THE GROUND  
        SO SMUG, SO ANGRY, SO SMART WERE THEY!  
    FOR GOD TO HAVE MERCY THIS MAN DID HE PRAY.  
        HIS BLOOD: HIS TEARS-AND THEIR SINS  
        HE WAS HUNG ON A CROSS  
        AND FORCED TO PAY THEIR COST  
    THE SKY WENT BLACK-AS BLACK AS COULD BE  
        SO ALL SINS COULD BE SET FREE  
    THE IMMORTAL SON OF THE LOVING FATHER SHALL RISE AGAIN!



# Confusion

Two cosmos amble through the boulevard  
Glorified in the homecoming of the sun  
The one enthroned in heaven laughs;  
The lord scoffs at them.

Aged diseases flit from carrier to carrier  
Youth are enticed and deceived to butchery or submission  
We all fall into the trap that has been laid down for  
Generations.

O righteous God  
Who searches minds and hearts?  
Bring to an end the violence of the wicked  
And make the righteous secure.  
Rupturing for just a moment,  
A deluge of joy burst into the mind,  
The heavens declare the glory of God;  
The skies proclaim the work of his  
Hands.

I brace myself to the squall that we call time,  
Those who know your name will trust in  
You,

for You, Lord, have never forsaken those  
Who seek You.

One of the most miserable damned events eternally  
Will be poetry readings,  
Earth, blotted out through the steam and smoke.  
Feigning no super human bearing or motions,  
Everyone has a weakness inside them including you,

But you never indulged your weakness  
A gentle anger turns away wrath,  
But a harsh word stirs up anger.  
Like the diamond in the rough,  
like a sheet of the purest gold,  
Thoughts untainted by mankind:  
For those who never succeed,  
It is the most satisfying

You are the helper of the featherless.  
As far as the East is from the West,  
So far has he removed our  
Transgressions from us.

You could always be rambling but never crude  
When the trees reach out through the twilight with  
Their bare limbs I imagine the countless people  
Who have passed away without

The comfort of love,  
He is like a tree planted by streams of waters,  
Which yields its fruits in season  
And whose leaf does not wither.  
Whatever he does prospers.  
Commit to the Lord whatever you do,  
And your plans will succeed.  
With your help I can advance against a Troop;  
With my God I can scale a Wall.

Everyone has only a period of time. So live it determined.

Exhilaration is Universal.  
Delirium is not a regular state-of-being,  
but neither is tribulation

To be rest assured in Christ is to have someone who knows all  
your faults and likes you still.

Tomorrow is yours!  
Pursue the presence of God.  
Comprehend that the feeling of being like new will actually be  
the feeling of eternal life!  
People say you are lost when you have actually won.  
Everything will be okay.  
This is the moment to uplift your palms.

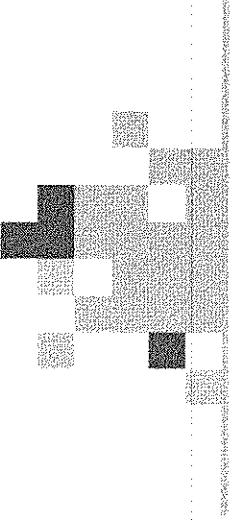
To be rest assured in Christ is to know that His Creation  
is in the shape of a circle and not flat.  
Every Person is victorious.  
Search and learn that there is harmony.  
If it is of no cost, then why not grab it?

As if drawn there with a microscopic pen.  
Almost like a beacon of light in a hailstorm.  
Unable to be seen by no one,  
only those who believe.  
Do not be held off by whatever cannot be seen,  
stand up anyway, anything is possible.

Time is dripping off the faucet.  
Even a slight bit of affection is greater than a drizzle rain.  
A hoper and a prayer;  
Grinning towards you.

What will be there when Life ends?  
Only one thing holds  
Christ knows what will be around the corner

By: Chelsea Carroll



# Finding Happiness in Music

## Maria Chickering

Music has made all our moments,  
bringing us together-singing and loving;  
the world is drenched in melody.

Quiet is fine! Fine, it's divine! Quiet is fine!  
But then pleasure fills my ears,  
a melody from the stillness will sound,  
and the music is crystal clear.

Because there was quiet that wanted sound,  
out of the still and silence of our quiet life,  
a cheerful melody sung by nature's children;  
I cannot erase the strangeness from my ears.

All that we hear or imagine is but a melody within a melody.  
Else moonstruck by music and madness,  
the tunes need no words to be hummed.

Music strikes away the walls of loneliness;  
we laughed with music we wept with silence.  
The people are starting to sing  
cool summer songs.  
There is happiness in beautiful melody.

We celebrate in song, so we sing ourselves;  
music and happiness fill the world;  
all that we were, we are when music plays.

Music is where memories live;  
protest, protest against the dying melodies,  
we refuse to stop the song.

# Breaking Ties

Kiera Cotti

He was the sun and she was the rain  
He brought the glory and she brought the pain  
She thought he was different  
He thought she was cool  
And between them was a burning fire of desire

They proclaimed themselves fighters of love to infinity  
But they sat in a continuous spiral of despair  
She stumbled and fell like the intoxicated woman outside the bar  
And as his eyes began to wander

Her scars reopened  
And she broke down and hit the ground  
She fell with a smack and they fell apart  
Because he closed the window to his soul

But she tried to ignore the pain and deceit  
And although it was never him  
The spirit of the rain fought back

But now they know he has to go  
And while the laughing music drifts in and out  
They sheave their swords without a shout  
So they let the winds blow them into a recession  
And they throw their love in a can of gasoline  
And light the match

He says she lied  
She says he cried  
He says she fell  
She says he couldn't stand  
He says she broke  
She says he was never put together

And so the curtain falls  
Their story told

But in the end, she found herself again  
And now she knows boys come and go  
But someday her true love will stay forever.

# The Suicidal Thoughts of a Lover

## Nate Curlott

In June's twilight, I envy the glowing moon  
With my insides on fire, I turned back to my room

I am alive-I guess-  
I praise and love myself  
Self love destroyed perfection  
When a soul dies, the body dies as well

Love, the flow of life  
I met you loving, but not loved  
Should my love be for my wife?  
Even the animals laughed at the human's stupidity

Punishment-the way I live  
You don't want me anything but dead  
I think-I know I have a grave down in the cellar

I am unclean, God holds my fate  
Accept all of God's blessings  
I'll praise Him through thick and thin  
Life Goes ON

Untitled  
By  
Emily Fredericksen

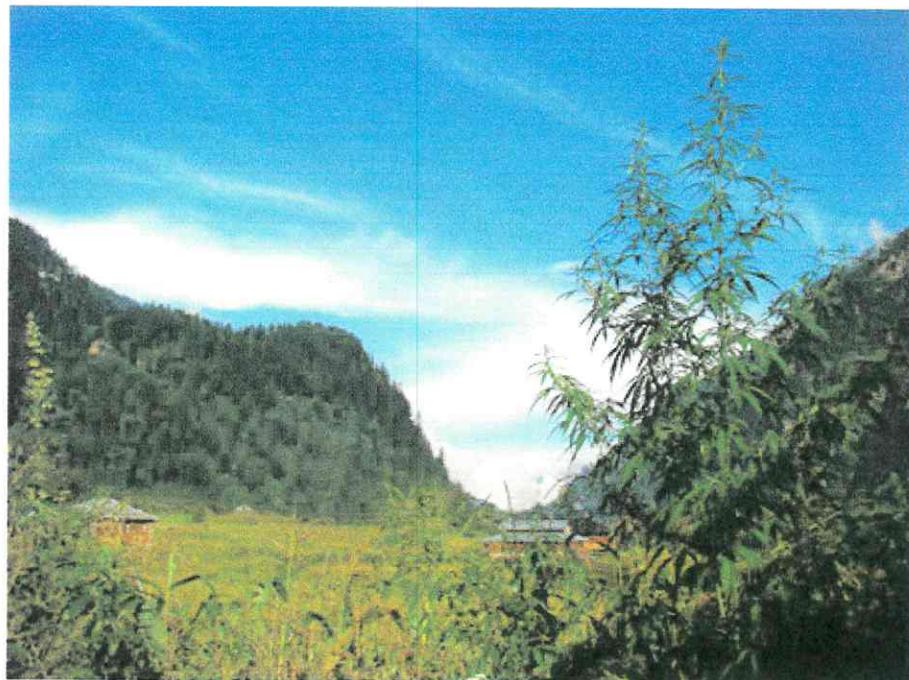
What will be found at the brink of the earth?  
Where the highest note ever sung is claimed by the air.  
The footpath does end at a certain point  
There is no ceiling, only turquoise blue sunshine lives here and  
peacocks,  
too.  
Daisies are there to tiptoe through and flamingos to say hello to.  
The sky is held up by a rainbow dome.  
And where the chilly peppermint breeze is used by the ostrich to rest from  
his flight.  
Time stands still, the seconds spattering off the ground  
Maybe my far is somebody else's near, and my here is somebody  
else's there.  
Cheerfulness is seen wherever one turns.  
Where people sing and poke fun at the jolliest things  
Joy is never an unchanging state, but sadness isn't either.  
All the happy people came to see...and called it art  
Should I applaud or should I curtsy?  
Things that only I can see  
As if invisible ink was used to draw it there.  
Don't be afraid of what can't be seen, just get up and go  
The imagination grows curiosity.  
Having a delicious imagination isn't always a piece of cake.  
It's like happening upon a wish expecting to be discovered.  
For the rest of my life I will try to solve this  
I think I've had enough of these no longer useful things.  
After all, if everything was to slumber at the same instant the  
Earth could  
unintentionally end.  
Only God knows what will come around the corner.  
And believing in God is knowing that an orange jelly bean could  
sprout into  
a purple lemon tree.

# *The Valley*

*Over the hill loll peace, harmony, and life in the valley  
It is a view to intrigue anyone  
Our eyes with pleasure, our eyes with amazement  
What villain or lost soul could destroy this sanctuary?*

*It seems to be a wonder of a withering world  
Little creatures, as if angels from above  
No depressed mood is there's  
We bathe in the tranquility of this place  
As if to cleanse ourselves of offense*

*In between the mountains lies the last hope  
For me there is no departure  
Until I choose to join the sparrows,  
Flying between the mystifying clouds*



*By Chloe Gumpert*

# A New Normal

Olivia Hawley

As of now, I will not solicit serendipity because I create my own.  
Prosperity is scarce and held close.

Obliviously I'm swept away by life and by my own bad fortune!  
That which is beyond my grasp graciously endures; it is my  
current possessions that will change to loss.

Change is forever constant,  
and therefore affection is the High Commissioner of loss.

But, this true affection is radiant because of change.

I wait with bated breath for it.  
And when it comes I will croon carelessly with compassion!  
Only if I can pass the time without tiring of the ageless

....wait....

I took the strenuous path,  
although the effortless choices are more appealing.  
For if I had not! I would finish neck and neck from the starting line!

# God's Word: Past, Present, Future

Kaitlin Heinen



Screamed from on top of the mountain, the powerful message  
and it's loud proclamations became creeds.

The Word coaxed yet preached  
a creed of faith that reached  
people, singing with the heavenly angels that rejoice.

Widely-known but disregarded, the Word is hated by the world.  
Doubts appear in the minds of the Earth whenever heard.

The Word tends to create  
a disgust, a boiling hate.

He once had the hearts of all, but their denials are still stubborn.

The Word will be spoken among half-ignorant, half-selfish people,  
to shout its provoking messages at their sinful nature.

The Word will penetrate mind,  
where faith lies behind:

Faith lingering beneath the depths of a sinful heart.

# **My Angel, My Love**

## **Jessica Jennings**

**Others touched by your life keep on thriving.  
I just exist**

**while growing more similar to you every hour you are gone.  
The thought of our destiny's resemblance makes me squirm.**

**Stop, Stop. There is still hope that I won't leave as you did.**

**I reflect from a silenced dream;  
lonesome like my heartbeat without yours.**

**Looming closer to death's tranquil storm,  
I torture my heart by reminiscing of what we had together.**

**My memories of you are stained red,  
The way you were.**

**Not crying a river over you becomes my greatest challenge.**

**Knowing that I am alone disturbs me,  
almost as much as its syllables punching me when spoken.  
I wish you could exist with me in a never ending moment.**

**Letting go is the hardest thing I have ever done,  
but I know we will be together again,**

**My Angel, My Love.**

# Of School Days

Joel Johnson

Of school days, school yards, school mates  
Here sighs a desk and the textbook talks  
The tired mind screams at what the pages teach  
A quiet room leads to better concentration  
Grow thy mind, than others shall seek thy teaching  
If'n schooled can 'nos' never be ign'ant a'in  
My grandfather watches me from heaven  
Smiling during study hall  
The text before me is  
Intriguing  
There are definitions, allusions, and valiant alliterations  
Enlightens, promotes, learning, and opens doors  
We studied the Captain with his mighty sword  
Flag flying faith falling, freedom forms  
O'wars unthinkable, we contemplate thee  
O'wars insufferable, we endure thee  
O'wars destructive, set us free  
So finally a friendly few receive  
I helped a confident, lost freshman  
Scared, confused he found his pass expired  
The capable, creative, college bound  
Explorer  
Oh how we laugh, shared laughs are the best  
Spring forth with purpose for thy studies beckon thee  
Spring forth with purpose for thy studies beckon thee

# Katie Laughlin

If you are a Sci-Fi Geek  
My deepest secret could be your wildest fantasy.  
My secret, the kid next door is Superman.

When I first saw the boy fly  
He invited me to come by.  
The boy said "silly neighbor, you now know my secret."  
All I could think was SUPERMAN, OMG-YOU!  
I sat dumbfounded till I realized it had turned from day to night.

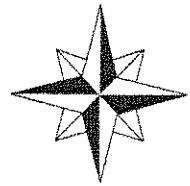
At that time I couldn't recall,  
The word friend coming up at all.  
Sill, I asked him, "friend, can you teach me to fly?"  
"You are too young," he replied.  
You see flying is good for the soul,  
And with that no, my heart sank into despair.

With a grin, "don't tell your parents."  
Yipping, zipping, soaring we went.  
By, God, the neighbor is Superman.

After our daredevil action I knew  
Without Superman, I didn't have cool friends at all.  
So I asked, "is it cool, if we're friends?"  
He laughed hysterically giggling at my question.  
"Only if we don't fly all the time,  
my Halloween costume is uncomfortable."

My neighbor isn't Superman? Let this be a dream-please?

# Dreamer's Eden



Sean Lovellette

You love at dusk to sit and imagine,  
inspired by the world's infinite beauty.

Your dreams draw you near,  
as they grow clear,  
across the midnight sky.

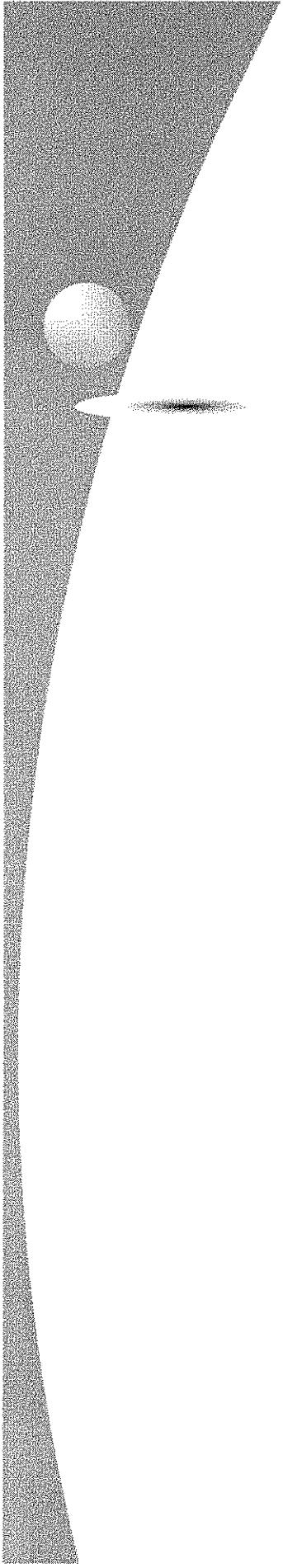
Dreams meeting in the blue,  
above the earth for an instant.

Some soar, others tumble,  
all loose and free.

Now higher they rise up,  
flying over the Vatican, the aged city of Rome.  
forming a bubble, bursting in whimsical excitement,  
like a strange concoction of dazzling color.

Then they separate,  
finding their own path through the heavens,  
and the brilliant trial of every single dream,  
drifts down while you sleep.

The sun wakes, the darkness retreats.  
The children begin to laugh and play.  
But the old chirping bird knows what you long for:  
THAT DREAMER'S EDEN.



# Daniel Marceau

On the hardwood floor of a basketball court,  
are sinister opponents with menacing attitudes.  
This is why I came out early, ya know.  
I said-I'm done with college now,  
where fame and fortune are not.

And now the game hinges on this play.  
I dared myself to prove I could.  
He aimed to pass to the open man,  
not I choose my time and go.  
I swipe, for he is frozen with fear.  
then I make my move and away I dash.  
I picked the pocket of that poor player.

I have no fear of defense,  
I shall just jump over them.  
Without warning, I am in flight.  
I rise. And two defenders lay at my feet.  
I am hanging from the rim.  
What I have dunked, I cannot un-dunk.

He fouled me, and slumped hopeless to the hardwood.  
When only a free throw remains, the defense doesn't  
matter.  
The shots rotation perfect, the arch flawless.  
Breathless crowd.  
A sudden sea of fans. But for what team?  
The cheering is louder than boos,  
for the fans are chanting *my* name!

# Winter's End, Spring's Beginning

Kirstin Marriott

On a midmorning, I amble lonely as a cloud,  
the Winter full of darkness and gloom;  
days of snow and weeks of cold.

I wish for a change from the monotony of Winter  
to the excitement of Spring:  
Sun, Blossoms, and Warmth wait ahead.

I'll walk where the sun shines, strolling in the rays of light,  
face in the bright sunshine, toes in the newly green grass,  
I gaze joyfully upon billowing streams, blooming buds, and  
soaring birds,

Spring is here to uplift, to inspire, to renew.

# I Stand As Your Servant

Megan Martin

Lord, the stakes of sin are as high as can be in my life, but where do I go from here o  
Wonderful Counselor? Straight and paved or rocky and curved?

...If you ever find yourself sinking in the depths of a sea of pain, hurt, or loss, reach out  
and Emmanuel will be there to help...

A wise friend once said that prayer with Jesus is like calling him on your cell phone and never hanging up.  
"Hold that though, I need to make a call before choosing a path."

At night I fall asleep confused, does the Protector of All really send his angels to shelter me from harm?  
Is he honestly watching over me?

Sometimes at school, when I look around, although surrounded by friends, I feel unbelievably alone.

Lord, for you and you alone do I yearn to live for.

Lord, finally do I see the truth! The freedom to run, dance, scream, and shout your name from the rooftops;  
for from now on will I live for you Emmanuel.

No matter what tragedy or peril I may be put through on Earth, I remember the seat with my name on it,  
awaiting me right next to the Kings of Kings in Heaven.

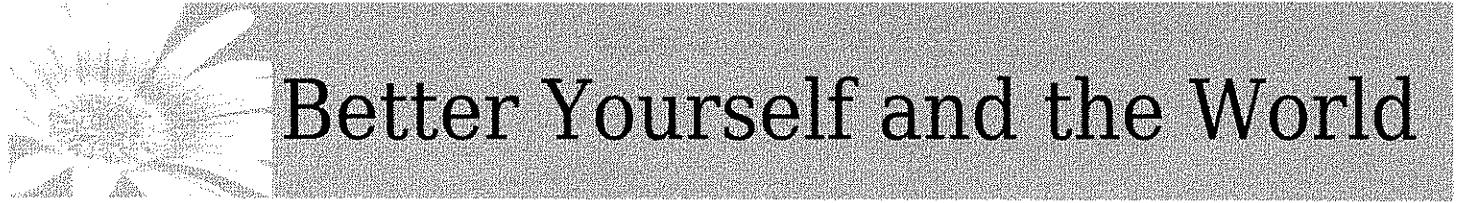
Anytime I stagger and stumble, all I must do is look up and there on the clouds of Heaven stands my Abba,  
My Daddy; with his arms open and waiting to pick me up once again.

For today, I often find myself on my face before the Alpha and Omega,  
crying out to him without anything to say at all sometimes.

For I am eternally grateful to the Giver of Life, for he has provided me with a second chance,  
a love and passion for others that I never had before along with eternal life in Heaven.

My wish for all my friends and family is that they too come to see you for who you really are;  
The Way, The Truth, and The Life.

Lord, I continue to stand here as your servant, waiting directions and guidance.  
Granted, Heaven is open to all who wish to believe, although keep in mind, in order to get there you must choose a  
path;  
Straight and paved or rocky and curved?  
Although it has been a challenge,  
the decision to take the road less traveled will end up being worth every troubled step.



# Better Yourself and the World

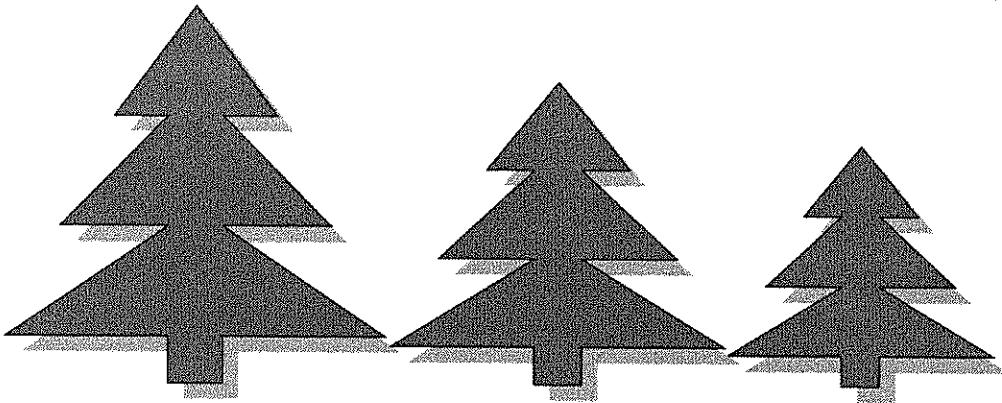
Kelsey Meier

This world I love is great, but  
the world suffers from darkness and pain. So  
smile with great happiness.  
Smile, maybe you can save the world's soul.  
The sun highlights your smile.

Can't you hear the cries?  
Don't the stabbing cries leave puncture wounds in your heart?  
Change the world, help the unseen.  
Help others to perform their best,  
help them touch the heavens.  
Change the world with the words that swirl in your head.

Stand up like the brave fighter you are.  
Accidental blessings are not always detrimental. So tell people,  
"Love is intense, like a thunderclap, and beautiful, like a colorful sky."  
Prove the nay-Sayers wrong, try with all you have.

Now the song plays for all to hear.  
This song was meant to be sung.  
Let me sing a song of change.  
Let me continue the song.



# The Gutter Sage

## By: Skylar A. Moore

On the stage he was a natural-famed  
and famous

But he had grown tired of the empti-  
ness of the talk

What then, often asked,

Are sounds like these

The proper peace of mind?

Their short-lived jubilee; mutual mur-  
murs urge the slow disease

On the stage he was a natural-famed  
and famous.

'Twas only when he was off it he was  
acting

He set off on his way to the theater

Two paths proliferate

In the neighboring street he saw a

man

Asleep

"Up man!" cried he

"When your journey's over

and you're home in bed

There'll be enough time to sleep!"

The sleeper replied,

"I have learned the mark of a man."

What a skill! thought he. What a farce  
divine!

"What is the mark of a man, oh gutter  
sage?

If it was worth knowing, it'd been  
known by now

If the world was worth winning, it'd be  
won by now!"

"When in disgrace with Fortune in  
men's eyes,

you alone weep at my outcast state," said  
the sage.

What skill! thought he. What farce  
divine!

am always acting off stage stead of on  
it"

said he, oblivious.

"How dull, how unjust, it is to pause liv-  
ing!

Pleased and blessed is God alone"

Weak, he bowed his head with a sigh.

"When you sigh, young man  
you sigh not the air, but sigh my very  
soul away!"

What skill! thought he. What farce  
divine!

"You solicit me in vain, old man  
Why? You silken son of Pleasure!  
To shock me more?

You False God! You False Hope!  
Is this your mark of a man?"

"Sweat ran red and blood sprang out  
and I was never sorry

They clothed me in the clothes of death  
So strange so sad, the days that are no  
more!"

What skill! thought He. What farce  
Divine!

"From his moment on  
have no Self - One truth is clear:  
I have learned the mark of a Man.  
Now, Recover your sigh-blown youth!"  
And he regained his freedom with a sigh.

# Winning the Crown

## Jordan Olson

She has always dreamed of wearing the crown.

Her love for competing is shown on her face.

With her eyes set on the crown, nothing could bring her down.

Fiery red and sparkly, too, it was an elaborate gown.

As if she were walking on clouds, she walked across the stage with grace.

She has always dreamed of wearing the crown.

The judges would soon narrow down,  
to choose the contestant who they thought would embrace.

With her eyes set on the crown, nothing could bring her down.

Her mouth, much like one of Picasso's paintings, could not frown  
after all, her lipstick was in place.

She has always dreamed of wearing the crown.

She had to catch her breath and settle down  
because nothing more stood in her way-she won first place.

With her eyes set on the crown, nothing could bring her down.

With her bouquet situated in her right arm like a baby, she walked in her gown.

And now has a trophy to showcase.

She has always dreamed of wearing the crown.

With her eyes set on the crown, nothing could bring her down.

# Variation

Stacy Phipps

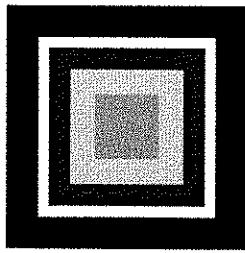
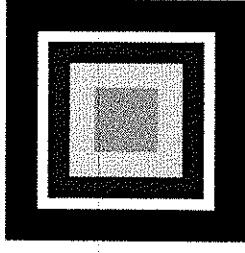
The heartless, the insensitivity,  
that which only grows with passing years,  
saying all it needs to say,  
drummed into our heads the idea remains,  
question it and they are offended,  
they spit malicious words, watching patiently as their victim crashes.

Tearing with their mocking eyes,  
the pleasure apparently on the polished faces,  
their critical eyes bordered by perfect locks,  
the severe looks they mimic from the world,  
always changing to gain each others approval,  
changing themselves into a proper society approved mess.

A pretty little china doll full of pointless babble,  
buzz uzzz auzzzzi e auzzzzzz,  
but their little minds still rejoice.

It is apparent why-not-a-monster, but why-a-dove, why-not-a-pigeon?  
Which is right? Their spiteful giggling follows the question.

But it is not wrong, the little pigeon.  
It is just not them,  
not one of those little dollies,  
free from excessive self-doubt,  
originality feeds the flame,  
stimulating the mind.



# The Darker Way

Justin Roberts

Here is the deepest secret, that no one knows;  
I am of the darker kind,  
they think I commit sin,  
yet not knowing the sinful way,  
I condemned myself.

I learned there are troubles,  
and the dark path winds and bends,  
I trip upon on the learned stairs,  
ever waving the early blade.

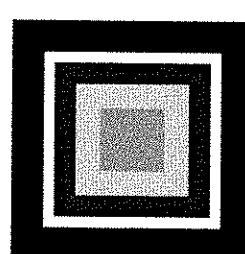
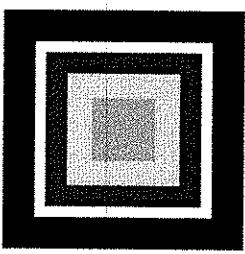
And then I fell gently

"Can the wisest mind be contained in the silver's rod?"

For the last of mind and flesh,  
through wise men at their end know the dark path is right,  
they ask of forgiveness with great sweetness.

"The seed will grow and the mead shall blow!  
but youth is the essence time will not endure,"  
when thou art old there's enough grief for thee,  
in and out, the eagle shall part,  
not one or any other will sleep a wink,  
in side the coffin, the mourners rest.

Let us go walk aside from the rest,  
here is the dark forest,  
see what isn't seen to the world?  
It stretches around the never-ending path  
as though it were thick ten thousand mile



# The Majestic

• Shane Rumpza

My exquisite, entrancing beauty a leap above a field or roses,  
I wear a white coat of snow during the coldest of winters,  
My broad shoulders hold unmoving, cloaked by multitudes of snow,  
My smooth-rugged skin is made of thousands of rocks,  
Blood courses through my veins as silver and gold,  
My tears cascade down my face in a rockslide,  
Nothing wakes me, for I never sleep,  
My peak rises above the clouds, like an upside down ice cream cone,  
No color illuminates day and night, for me both are blended,  
My fingers are the trees, reaching up to touch the sky,  
I am an eternal being, shaped by unknown hands,  
For I am one of many majestic mountains,  
I stand foreboding, casting a shadow on all around me.

# The End!

Katie Schabilion

The moon rises, flying over the woods like Superman.  
From the ground everything is repulsive and real:  
we will die eventually, because  
Life's only easy when you're dead. Anyone alive understands that.

Period! Suddenly, the end!

Two by two they step away, but this dreamer follows anyway, hoping  
to finally find my wits when you wreck the Thanksgiving turkey.  
When angry, laugh out loud.

Period! Suddenly, the end!

I ponder the choice of our recollections,  
because often there are chinks in our masks:  
Therapists help,  
only by their personally recognition of the strangeness.  
The doctors invade like an army of chefs with sharp knives:  
Find your hero where Spiderman meets Batman.

Period! Suddenly, the end!

But what damage have they done to our icons?  
Bring me the severed leg.  
Tell me, trust me with this mystery:  
What is that smell? Is that legal in this town?  
Phooey, it's all a bunch of phooey,  
never before seen in this country or any other.  
Our imagination tells only half our stories;  
we must live the rest to the fullest.

Period! Suddenly, the end!

# *The Beauty of TODAY*

*Elisa Stegman*

*The first rays of light S*

P  
R  
U  
N  
G

*From the concealing horizon;*

*My eyes can now Capture this world's beauty  
as Heaven's air fills my lungs.*

*The freshness ignites SPIRITES of desire and passion  
consumes me. With passion*

*I SEARCH.*

*The woods VIBRATE from my steps, echoing in  
Heaven's song  
rarely blinking, my intention to SEE the world  
has begun.*

*My eyes soak in the sunrise's  
SpOnTaNeOuS bursts  
of harmonious colors. All of nature mAGNIFIES Heaven's glow-  
The mountains, the treetops, and the river's flow.*

*Motionless, Motionless I stand  
experiencing the profound eloquence of nature's  
silence.*

*When my eyes capture the day's last picture*

*and my heavy Eyelids threaten to close,  
night will claim Day's watch*

*And I will dream with renewed excitement  
to see tomorrow's world.*

# From Where We Stand

Steven Trent

Time, infinite at our disposal.

Death, nearing as we sweat bullets.  
The moon like a god's face by  
mountains, twisted variants swing.  
A young boy plays on the dusty tundra.  
Within the burning glass, the murky sky glows.

Once I asked a lonely, foolish runt  
what He deserved.

Care, what He pleaded ignored, was not present in my  
annoyance of His ignorance.

Still will I end beauty where it shows.  
I will not pity the lives of the ignorant.  
My sin is abundant:  
Arrest is of my own.

Pronged music of screams from all directions like  
tormenting harmonies of children cut loose.  
The absolute frenzy of all our subtle anger,  
How malevolent of us. With their still  
bodies-still and lifeless.  
What had the world pushing this upon us?

Come out and follow your leaders my friends.  
Like enraged beasts we'll come into this, fierce as ever.  
We seize the victory, frozen now in time.  
The claws of the enemy that grasped us,  
no more. Nothing we can do or say will lead us through this.  
At sunrise,  
We attack.

# ATONEMENT

## AARON VINER

YOU ARE MY ENEMY  
THROUGH THE BLINDNESS OF FEAR.

I PULL THE TRIGGER,  
I WILL MAKE MY TROUBLES DISAPPEAR.

THE CLOCK'S HANDS IN YOUR EYES STOP  
AS YOU FALL DEAD.

CONTAGIOUS THROUGH MIND  
THE DISEASE OF LEAD.

I ACT LIKE A CHRISTIAN,  
I MOURN MY SIN.  
STANDING IN GOD'S SPOTLIGHT,  
I SHRINK TO AN INCH.

GOD SPEAKS WITH ME,  
ON HIS HEAVENLY CHAIR.  
“RISE UP YOU PITIFUL SOUL!”  
HE EXCLAIMS FROM THE AIR.

I TRAVEL TOWARD REDEMPTION,  
AS MY SIN VENTURES AWAY,  
INTO THE KINGDOM  
OF A POWER TO WHOM WE PRAY.

# Snow

Julie Waner

WHERE THE LIGHT LINGERS VIVIDLY,  
CAPTIVATING FIGURES OF THE SEASON  
HELP REMIND US OF THOSE PLAYFUL TIMES  
BUT A NEW FORCE SENDS THE EVENING CHILLS,  
CAN YOU ENDURE THE COLD?  
AT TIMES, I HATE THE WARMTH,  
BLAZING. A SUGGESTION OF HEAT WORRIES,  
THE THOUGHT-WITH NO BACKING BEHIND IT.  
THE SUN'S ANNOYING WARMTH HANGS OVERHEAD,  
COVERING, COVERING, VAST PILES OF SNOW,  
THAT FLICKERING FIRE AWAKENS FEAR MOST,  
IT'S FLARE SHINES TO ANNOUNCE IT'S RULE.  
THE SLOSHING SNOW IT CREATES ANNOYS ME.  
WHY MUST MY SNOW CASCADE AWAY?  
MELTED RUINS DISAPPEAR DOWN THE STREETS,  
LEAVING ME FEARFUL OF SPRING'S SYRUPY SLAP.  
THE OVERLOADING ZEST WITH NO SPARKLING ICE,  
BUT INEVITABLY, IT COMES.  
CHANGES BRING EMPTINESS, UNTIL  
FAMILIAR FROST RETURNS ABOVE MY WINDOW,  
FALLING FROM THE CLOUDS, A VEIL OF MIST.  
PRISTINE GEMS OF SNOW FALL DOWN,  
SECRETIVELY BLINKING WITH THEIR SPARKLING SPECKS.  
THE DAZZLING TRANQUILITY AND POIGNANCY EASES ME.  
I NEED THE PEACEFUL, SPARKLING SNOW.

# This is Your Gift

Alexandrea West

The constant minding of feelings surrounding is violently awakened within me.

These sharp words spoken toward you

    Invade my head, overtake my heart, make me feel

    Everything

    Like you do.

As the moon appears at evening so my tears fall solely in the darkness of night.

Deep down the words strike ruthlessly.

    Deeper.

    Mine heart cries of bitter awareness.

    Now,

    Deep calls to Deep.

Here I stand in this vast region for a

Purpose.

    One that I cannot grasp yet,

    Oh, but my soul craves to find it.

    So my ear awaits to hear Your gentle voice.

All is silenced for You to speak sweetly to me.

You whisper,

    "This is your gift,

    To know the hearts of those surrounding,

    To feel My desire for these beloveds.

    Tell them daughter, raise them up, show them My love,

    For this is your gift."

My eyes instantaneously flood with tears like the stars blanket the sky at the close of day.

Because through You, I now realize

    Who I am and the purpose you have placed upon my life,

    To live expressing the knowledge of Your unconditional

    Never-ending

    Love for Your people.

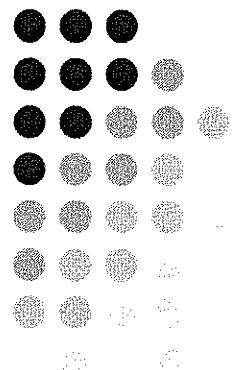
So Daddy, I'm through with all these tears.

Here I go,

    Living out my destiny.

# A Broken Promise Leaves Behind a Broken Heart

Marissa Williams



I had a dad who was not a dad at all.  
What was left behind was pain from a lie that ran deep like a cut.  
There is a strange pain clinging to my heart.  
I always knew my sweet old dad was really a snake.

Never again try to trick me with a smile and a lie.  
This isn't a mistake that will soon be forgotten.  
You are shut out of my heart because my trust for you is long gone.  
I always knew my sweet old dad was really a snake.

The secrets you keep make me weak.  
I can't trust you because I've lost faith in you all in all.  
I learn from you by experiencing the pain you brought.  
The pain subsides without the fear of being hurt again.  
I always knew my sweet old dad was really a snake.

Faith will make it easier to love and trust again.  
Trust is not given as a gift,  
but is earned by those that are entirely worthy.  
Should my heart feel forgiveness, would it be a crime?  
The art of forgiveness is limited and difficult.  
The crisis we made such a fuss about turned out to be a blessing in disguise.

# Storm

Hope Wilson

I stand on warm pavement and watch the falling rain. And as I observe this first rain, I feel a kind of magic. I hear the steady pouring of rain, and feel relaxed and calm. It is a most wonderful thing! To suddenly

hear rain pour over my lawn. I  
discover beauty in storms  
that others do not see.

I see lightning dancing  
across the dark blue sky to the  
beautiful song of deep thunder.

Crack! Boom! Boom! Boom!  
The sound echoes.

An assortment of cracked  
whips and fired cannons  
are filling up the sky.

Rain spatters the pavement.

Splat, splat, splat,  
as if trying to make lasting marks.

Trees bend and sway  
as winds pick up.

A wall of clouds.

The front rolls by,  
swirling as it pelts  
the ground with  
bullets of heavy rain.

A thunderstorm.

Lights! Sounds!

Movement! Nature  
has its very own show.

# Elegy

by

Mikka Benedict

Death is everywhere,  
It follows me,  
Attacks me starting small.

At the end of a vision,  
darkness moves quickly,  
I feel not prepared.

But courage can overcome,  
Fear consumes me,  
a cold chill rushes me.

Death is a figure of fear,  
It's only a concept,  
But it keeps me alive.

# GOD

By: Mikka D

In Hard Times, in a hellish place, you feel as if everything is against you, but all you get is your heart to fight back, life flashes as if part of you is being stolen, pain is a pawn and still, keep fighting, but metal flashes over and over again, hiding, watching, enemies waiting, but waiting for something I can recognize. Red up and down my leg burning like the fire in their eyes, Voice of a friend screaming in pain and agony, triggering rage and invincibility. Waiting for enemies to pass as I'm alone in the darkness of sunlight. Anger wants to be in control but fear has me but at the same time, thinking of death and glory. Friends crying, people dying, courage and fierce rage has taken my mind and evil. Shooting the fire out of the eyes, looking around people crying for help. Fighting for these people made me think. Thinking that he was there to help, and I thank him when all I had was my heart.

# Untitled

By

## Kat Clausen

WHAT DO YOU DO

When your FAIRY GOD DOCTOR  
Says he won't write  
Another prescription?

WHAT DO YOU DO

When the storm clouds roll in  
Past the point of redemption?

WHAT DO YOU DO

When the mask of incoherence  
Is forced to be sober?

ALL THAT YOU CAN DO

... Is laugh  
And just when I thought  
I could sink no lower

BUT

IT HAPPENS EVERY DAY,

YOU KNOW...

This tragic parade of  
WASTED  
POTENTIAL

**What People Saw**  
By  
**D.M.**

**People saw yellow**

**They saw my happiness**  
**As I played with my friends**

**People saw brown**

**They saw my confusion**  
**When I was not allowed to go to school**

**People saw pink**

**They saw my surprise**  
**When we were forced out of our homes**

**People saw red**

**They saw my rage**  
**When Nazi moved into my old home**

**People saw purple**

**They saw my wonder**  
**When we were forced into ghettos**

**People saw grey**

**They saw my nervousness**  
**When we went to the concentration camp**

**People saw orange**

**They saw my strength**  
**As I worked at the camp**

**People saw blue**

**They saw my sadness**  
**As I watched my parents die**

**People saw green**

**They saw my sickness**  
**From lack of food**

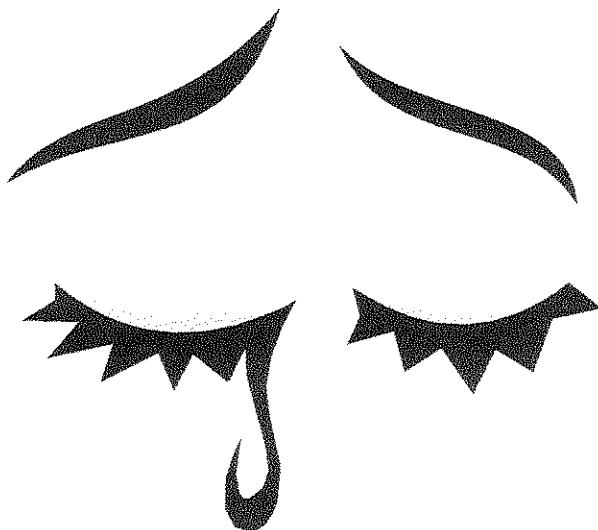
**People saw black**

**They saw my death**

**Some people saw a normal person**

**Some people saw a Jew**

**Some people saw a 13 year old girl die**



Remember  
By  
Tabitha Edwards

I remember when we started talking and everybody said  
O how cute.  
I remember when you first held me tight and I felt  
o so safe.  
I remember when we would hang out everyday, run  
around, play games, and watch TV.  
I remember when that first kiss sent sparks flying. How  
the chemistry grew and grew.  
I remember when we were inseparable on the phone or  
hanging out.  
I remember how many times I lied and how many times I  
cried because of you.  
I remember my heart once so warm and full go to  
Completely cold and broken.  
I don't remember the last time you told me you loved me  
and actually meant it.  
I don't remember doing half the stuff to you that you've  
done to me.  
I don't remember deserving this heartbreak, and still...  
I don't remember loving anybody as much as I loved  
you.

# "My Everything"

By

Paige Ewers

You are the air I breathe

You're the reason my heart's still  
beating.

If I had to choose between living and  
loving you thought I'd use my last  
breath to tell you how much I love you.

You're my sunshine,

The light in my darkness.

When I feel lost I know you'll always  
find me no matter where I'm at.

You give me hope,

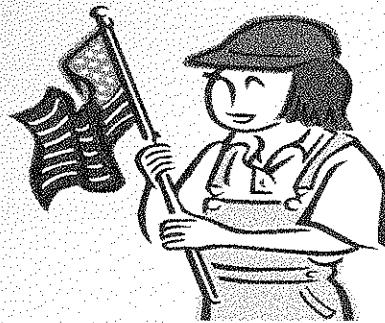
You're the only person who makes me  
truly happy.

I know you'd do anything for me as long  
as it would make me happy.

You're the reason for my tears at night.

You're the reason my heart breaks  
But despite all of that you still are  
my everything.

# MISS Congeniality By Natalie Levier



Newt says ambitious, Geffen says nasty,  
What a not nice business, campaigning for Miss  
Congeniality,  
Hillary faces criticism  
but the universe  
will support her.

Her personality and ambitions do reflect  
her experience as a candidate. She puts up with  
Humiliating  
comments and scandals. Hillary is  
but, her weakness, being the  
nicest candidate. Will  
she make the finals?

Maybe win?  
They cast the votes and truth be told,  
Hillary faces the thought of being a star. A Frightful  
problem, but she faces her fear  
being willing to go  
full circle. The  
latest news,  
WINNER!

Grandpa Grandpa  
By  
Natalie Levien

Grandpa Grandpa Where are you?  
For our good Lord could give me a clue.  
So far away you are now,  
Can I go on, I don't know how.

To the U.S. Army you gave all your might.  
It shows from the silver star shining so bright.  
You fought a fight for all our freedom.  
How can I thank you for all it's made me become.

Working so hard was always your plan.  
You felt it was essential to be a good man.  
No prouder could you be of your bowling game.  
I know for Grandma, she'll never be the same.

As you got older and things did change.  
You were always our patriarch here on the range.  
No matter what happened I want you to know.  
I can't admire you more and that is so.

I look to the stars and remember your face.  
Here on the farm was always your place.  
Life goes on you taught us all that.  
I'll never forget you in your farmer's hat.

**ONLY IF HE KNEW**  
**BY**  
**ANDREA MCCOY**

**I WOULDN'T HAVE STAYED WITH HIM THIS LONG  
IF I ONLY KNEW THAT HE WAS GOING TO HURT ME**

**MY HEART IS NOW REMAINING EMPTY  
THIS AGONY HAS LEFT ME WITH BAD CLUES**

**MY LIFE HAD BEEN TURNED AROUND COMPLETELY  
AFTER I HAD RECEIVED THE DEVASTATING NEWS**

**I'VE BEEN CRYING OVER HIM FOR MONTHS AND IT'S  
WRONG  
BUT NO ONE CAN HEAR ME I NEED HIM CAN'T  
THEY SEE? I LOVE HIM**

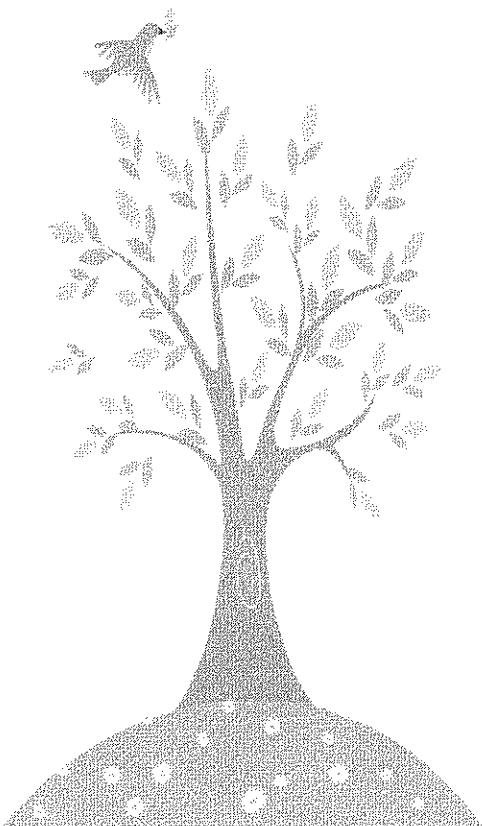
**BUT ONLY IF HE KNEW...**

## *Flow of the Soul*

*By*

*Tim Mullinnix*

The sun goes up  
The moon goes down  
The world turns round  
Times goes on in the flow of change  
Change of time goes bad to good  
The good times come and the bad goes  
The memories stay but the feelings  
sway  
Back and forth like a tree in the  
breeze  
As the air blows in and freezes  
The leaves that fall off to the ground  
Act as the feelings that die  
The same feelings that yearn to fly  
To fly off into the open and be known  
So let the breeze blow  
And let the feelings flow  
Like water in the soul



# **SORROW**

**BY**

**TIM MULLINNIX**

**PAIN OF SADNESS  
PAIN OF SORROW  
UNBIDDEN AND  
UNFORGIVING  
NEVER LEAVING  
NEVER CEASING  
ALWAYS PRESENT  
NEVER SILENT  
YES PEACEFUL  
AND PROTECTIVE  
NEVER STOPPING TO  
REMIND US OF THE  
ONES WE LOVE**

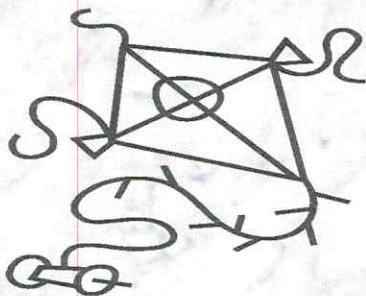
# Great Tree

The tree that springs up and rests on high.  
What is its name? People call it hope. It  
grows out of the little patch that is the  
heart. It grows bigger and bigger as the  
hope reaches forth. Even though this tree  
goes out of season and dies, it comes back  
again; its leaves and flowers bloom with  
new paths to new dreams. With each dream  
fulfilled it lets loose a new seed to blossom  
forth and grow tall into the hope that that  
tree has inspired in another's heart. The  
only way to tell though if that hope has  
been fulfilled is to kill it. Yet it is not really  
dead, it has a million children within those  
that loved it.

By Jester of Misery

**WHERE'S LUCY?  
BY  
SETH SCHOONOVER**

**FLOUNCED ALONG THE GOLDEN MEADOW  
LAUGHING AND SKIPPING  
HER KITE UNFURLING  
IN THE WIND  
YELLOW AGAINST BLUE  
THE KITE CLASHED VIBRANTLY AGAINST THE BLUE SKY  
LIKE FIGHTING TITANS OF OLD.  
THE COLOR DISPLAY WAS IMMENSE  
BUT DOWN SHE FELL  
THE KITE DANCED FREE  
SUFFEREING FROM EPILEPSY  
DOWN SHE STYAED  
UNTIL MORNING  
HER FATHER CALLING OUT  
HER NAME  
LUCY LUCH  
"GOD LUCY"  
LOOKING AT HER HE SCREAMED  
HER FACE WAS ETCHED WITH A FROZEN  
SMILE AND MORNING DW.  
ON HER PLUMMET TO THE GROUND  
SHE FOUND  
A ROCK  
TO LAY HER HEAD.  
THE KITE HUNG LIMPLY FROM A TREE  
TORN AND FLIMSY  
IN THE BREEZE.**



**WET CHIN  
BY  
SETH SCHOONOVER**

**THERE HE SAT—IN HIS CHAIR  
DROOLING AWAY—WITHOUT A CARE  
SMILING AS I CAME TO VISIT  
NOT KNOWING WHO I WAS  
HE GRINNED—A TOOTHLESS GRIN  
THAT'S WHEN I—CRIED**

**THE DEBILITATED MAN SAT AND STARED  
AS HE CONTINUED TO DROOL  
PATTING HIS SHOULD I QUIETLY SAID  
I WISH YOU COULD REMEMBER ME  
I TURNED AND WALKED AWAY  
HE CONTINUED TO GRIN—AND SLATHER  
HIS LIPS WITH DROOL**

**THE WET CHIN WOULDN'T LEAVE  
MY MIND FOR SOME TIME AFTER SEEING MY  
GRANDPA LIKE THAT.**

# “Love?”

Chris O'Toole

I often ask myself what's love?  
To many people it's just a word.  
But to others it's their everything.

Me on the other hand  
it meant everything to me  
then I lost it all.  
Now I'm all alone  
with my heart cold  
and no one to talk to  
all alone.

I often wonder what's the sense of living.



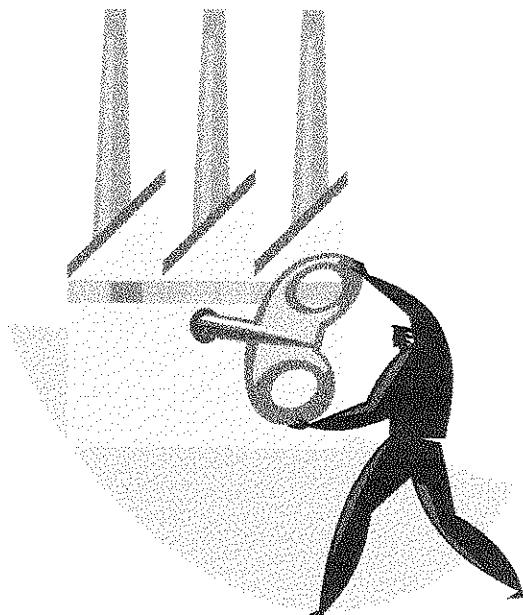
But I have come to a conclusion it's nothing.

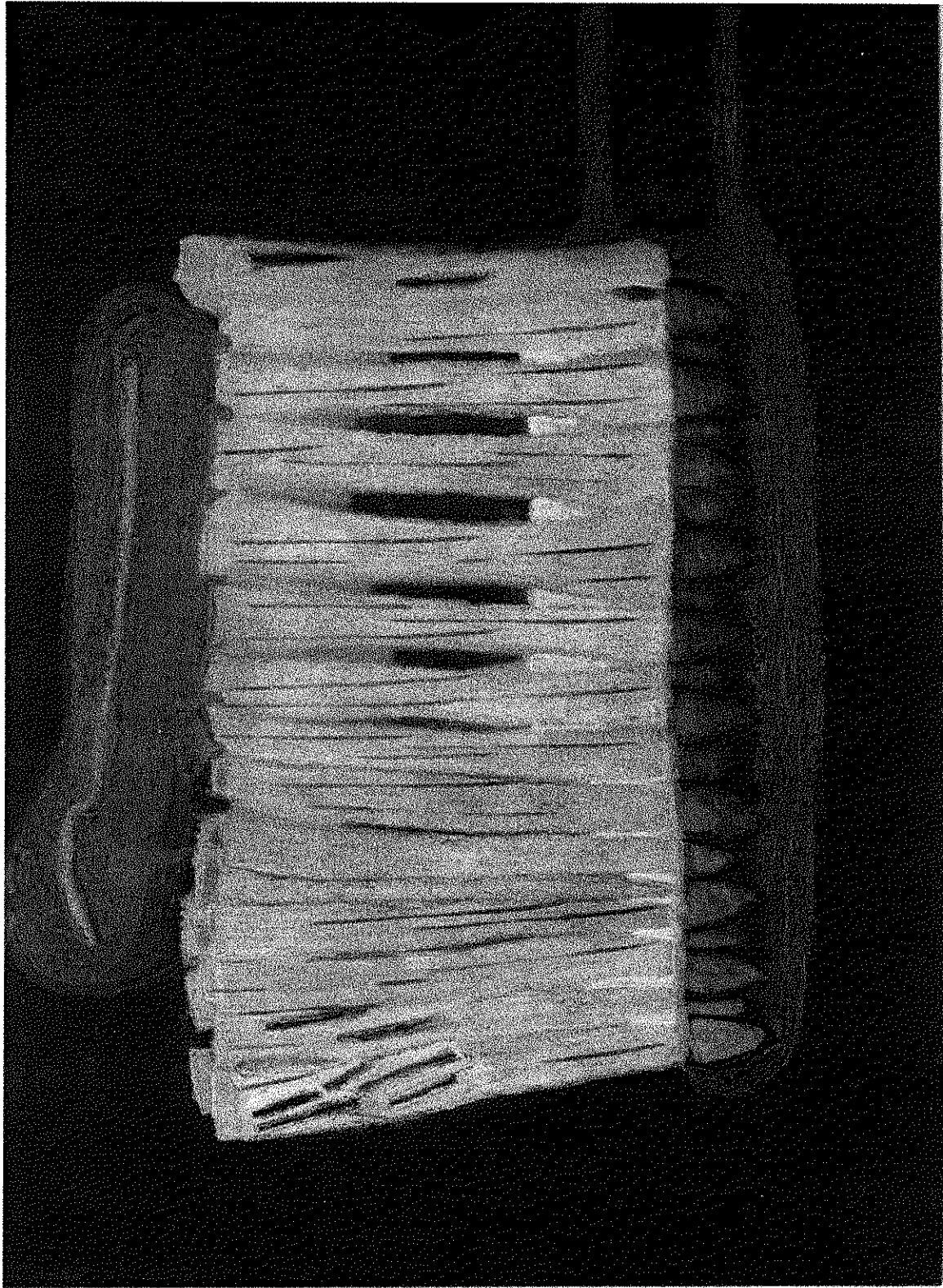
Life has no meaning  
if the person you love loves someone else.  
But I now realize it's time to stand up,  
dust myself off and look forward  
and find the love and bring it into my life.

To all who love I say good for you,  
and for those who just say it,  
find the meaning and say it when it's real.

Untitled  
by  
Victoria Turley

Here is the beginning of  
The decline of common sense  
Jobs are replaced by robotics  
And pride is suffocated by apathy  
Dear sweet apathy  
Hand in hand with wealth  
Neck in neck with lady decadence  
Rotting smiles line the streets  
Paved in blood and gold  
Smog fills air once so pure  
Buildings still sprout  
From where trees once stood  
Car horns beep where birds once sang  
And the son gives way  
To the information age





Crystal Allen



Crystal Allen



Abby Burt

BY: KAT CLAUSEN

WHAT DO YOU DO  
When your FAIRY GOD DOCTOR  
SAYS HE WON'T WRITE  
ANOTHER PRESCRIPTION?

WHAT DO YOU DO  
When the STORM CLOUDS roll in  
Past the point of redemption?

WHAT DO YOU DO  
When the mask of Incoherence  
is FORCED to BE SOBER?

ALL THAT YOU CAN DO

AND <sup>...IS</sup> Laugh.  
<sup>JUST</sup> WHEN I THOUGHT  
I could SINK NO LOWER.  
<sup>BUT</sup>

IT HAPPENS EVERY DAY,

YOU KNOW...

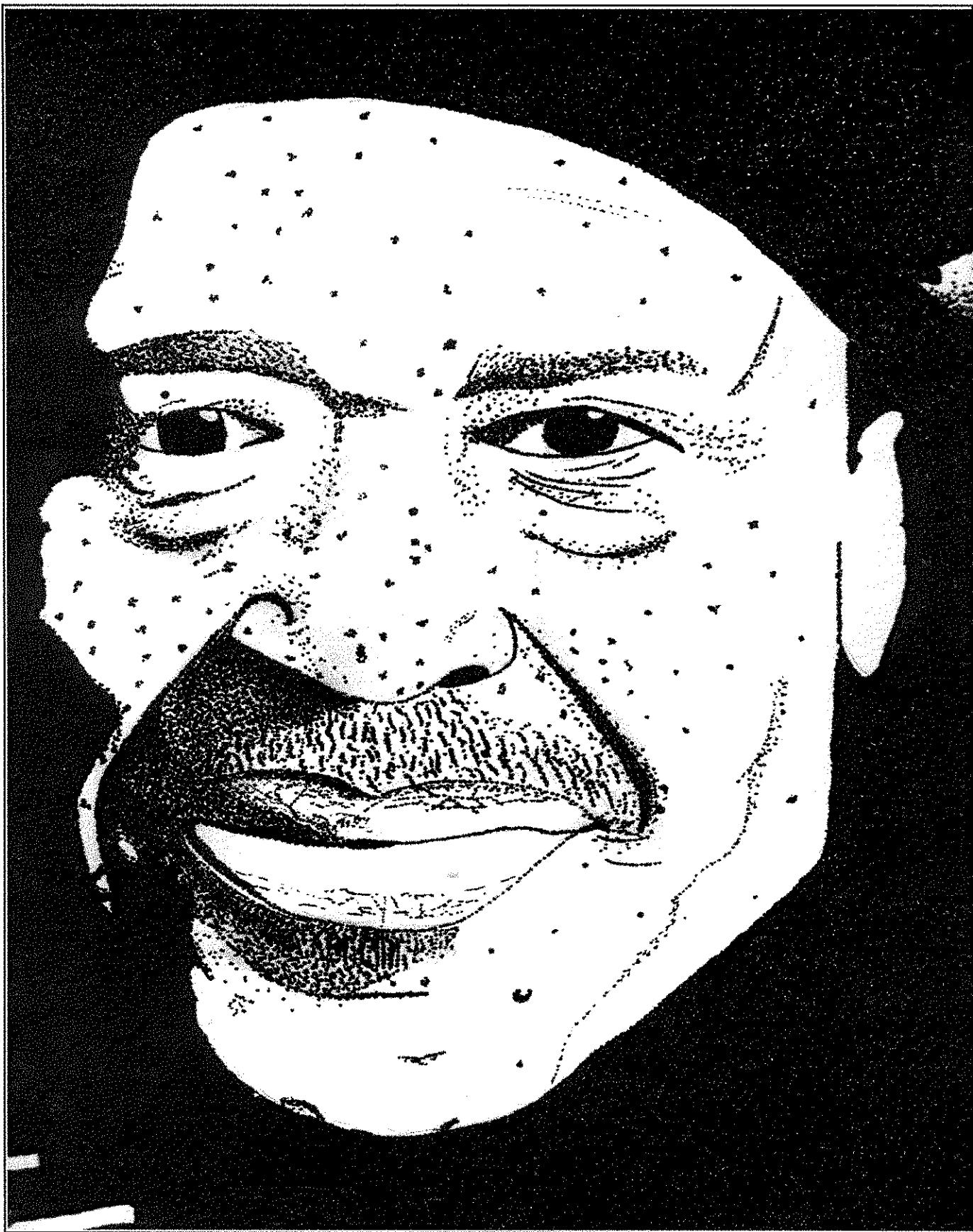
This tragic parade of

**WASTED  
POTENTIAL**

Kat Clausen



Darren



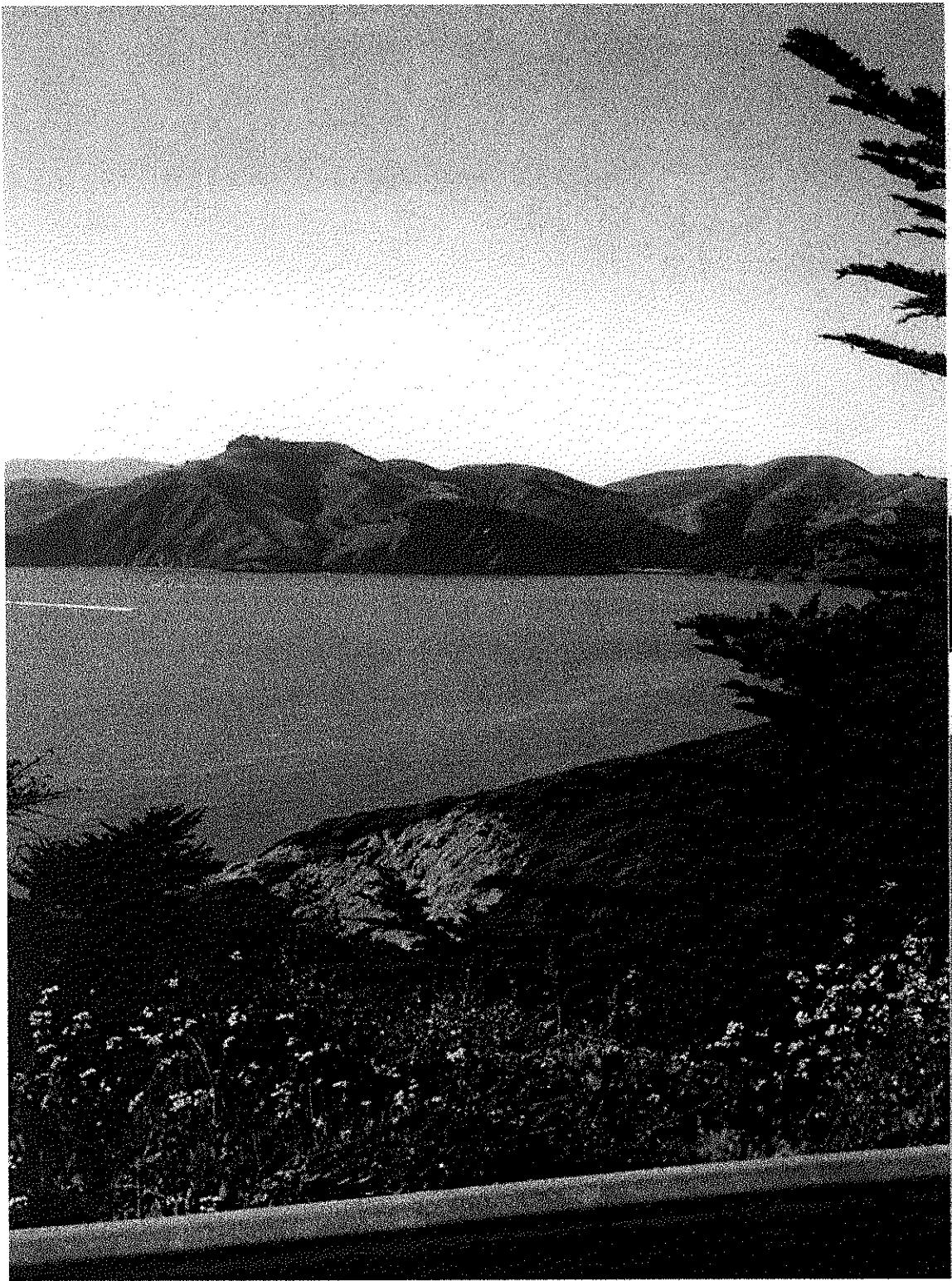
Ariel Fentress



Katie Gutheil



Katie Gutheil



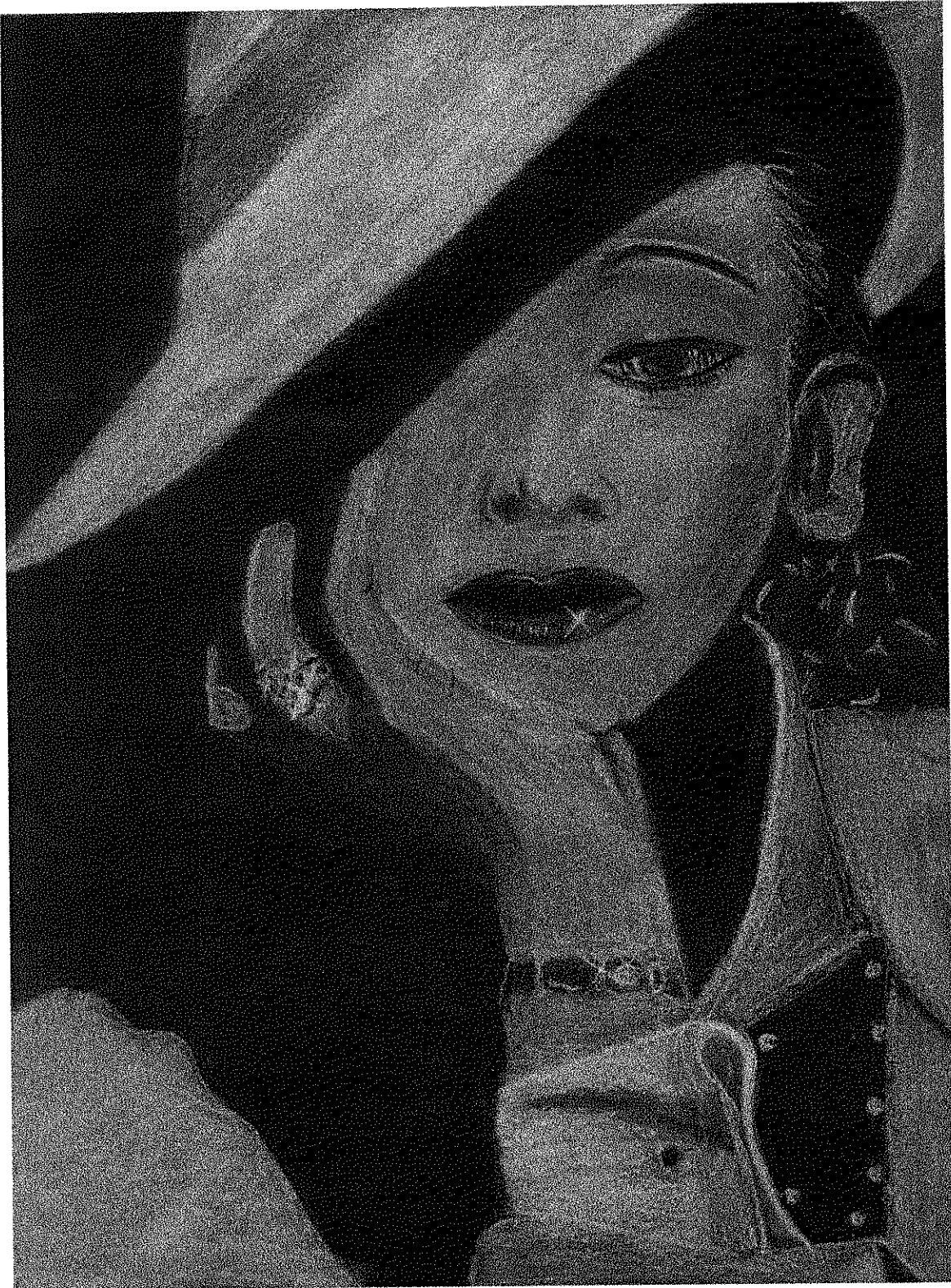
Katie Gutheil



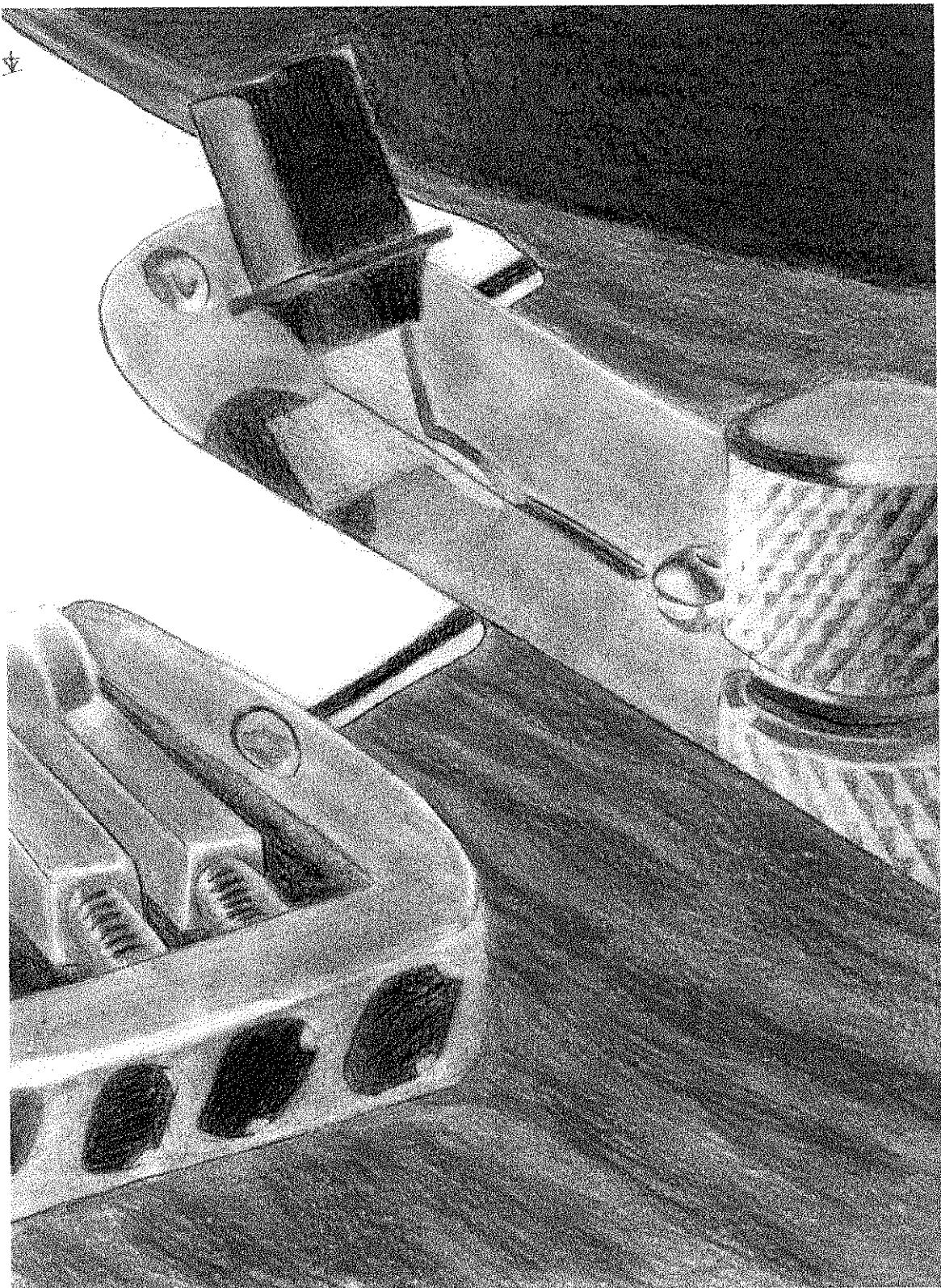
Katie Gutheil



Katie Gutheil



Kassie



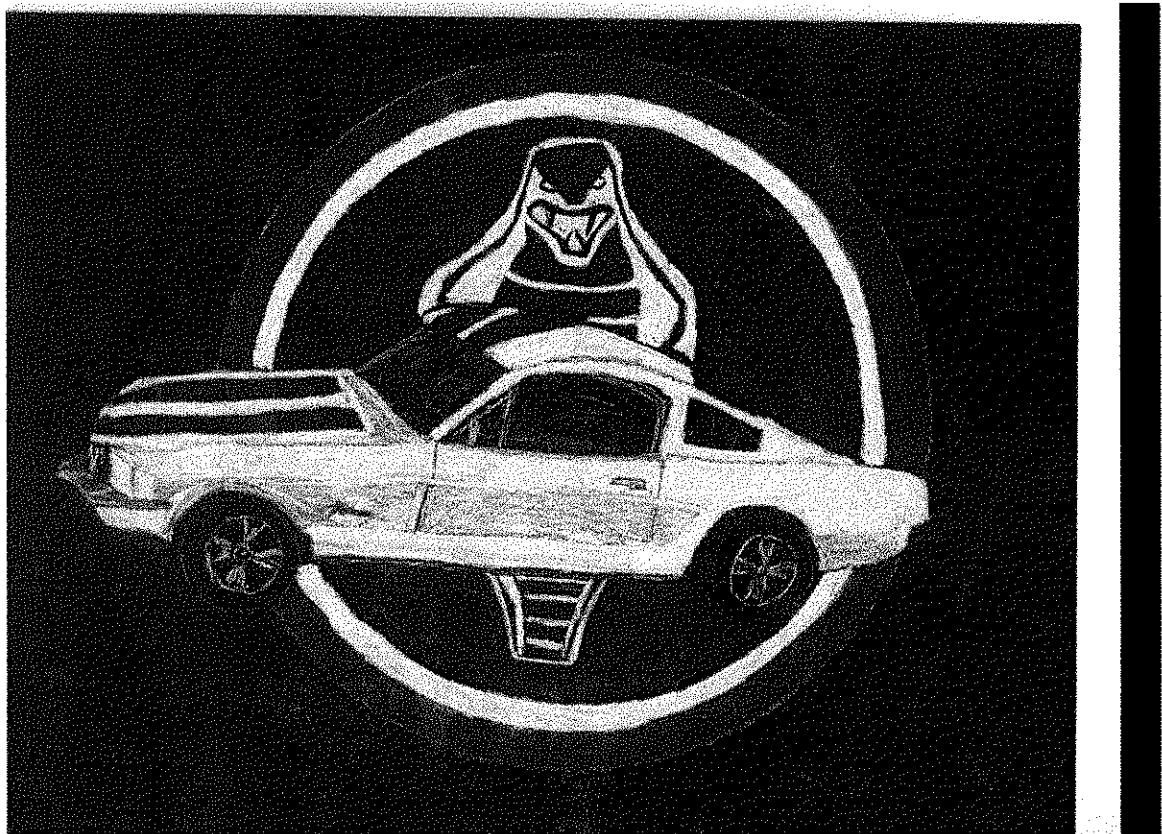
Kerri



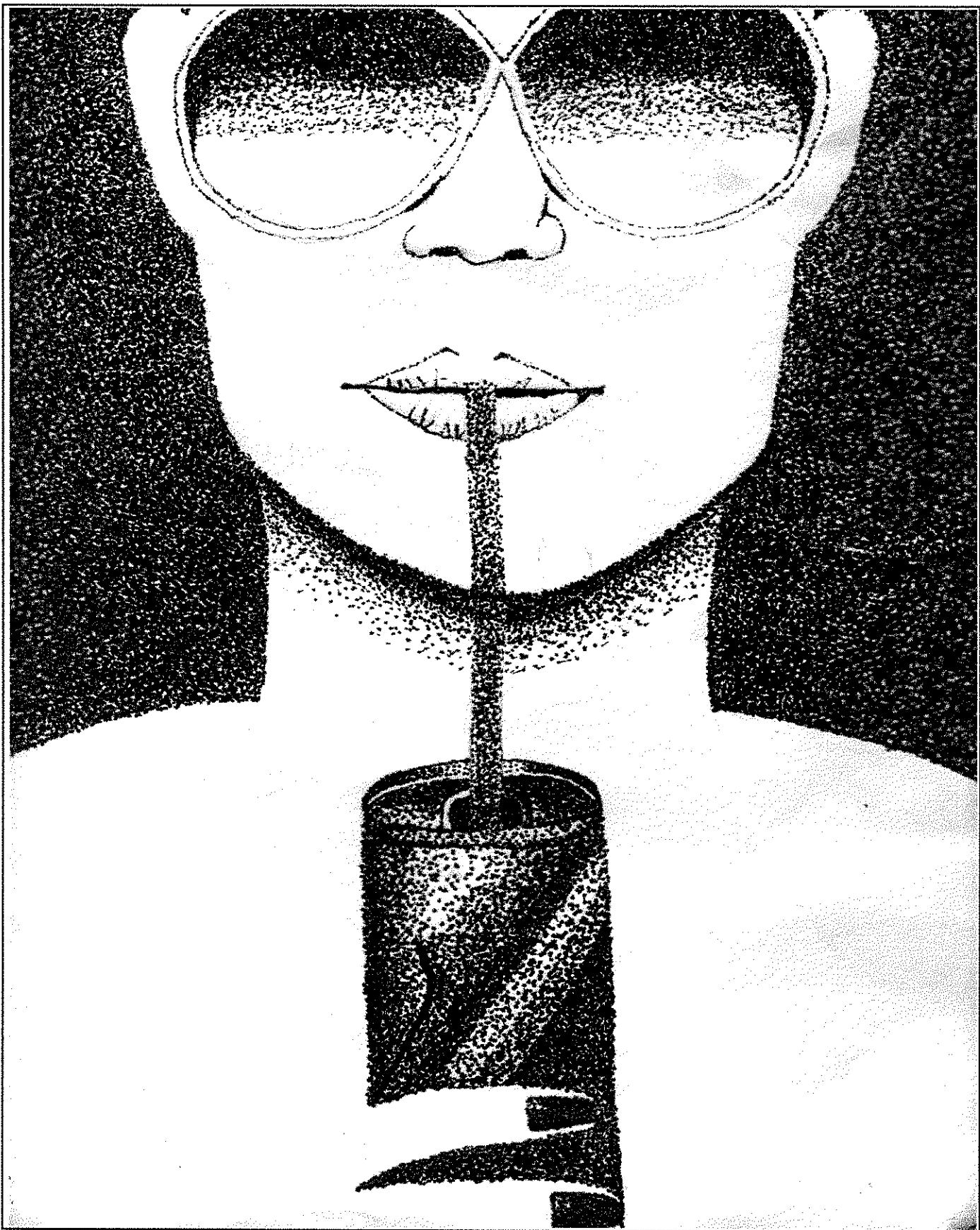
Taylor McGivern



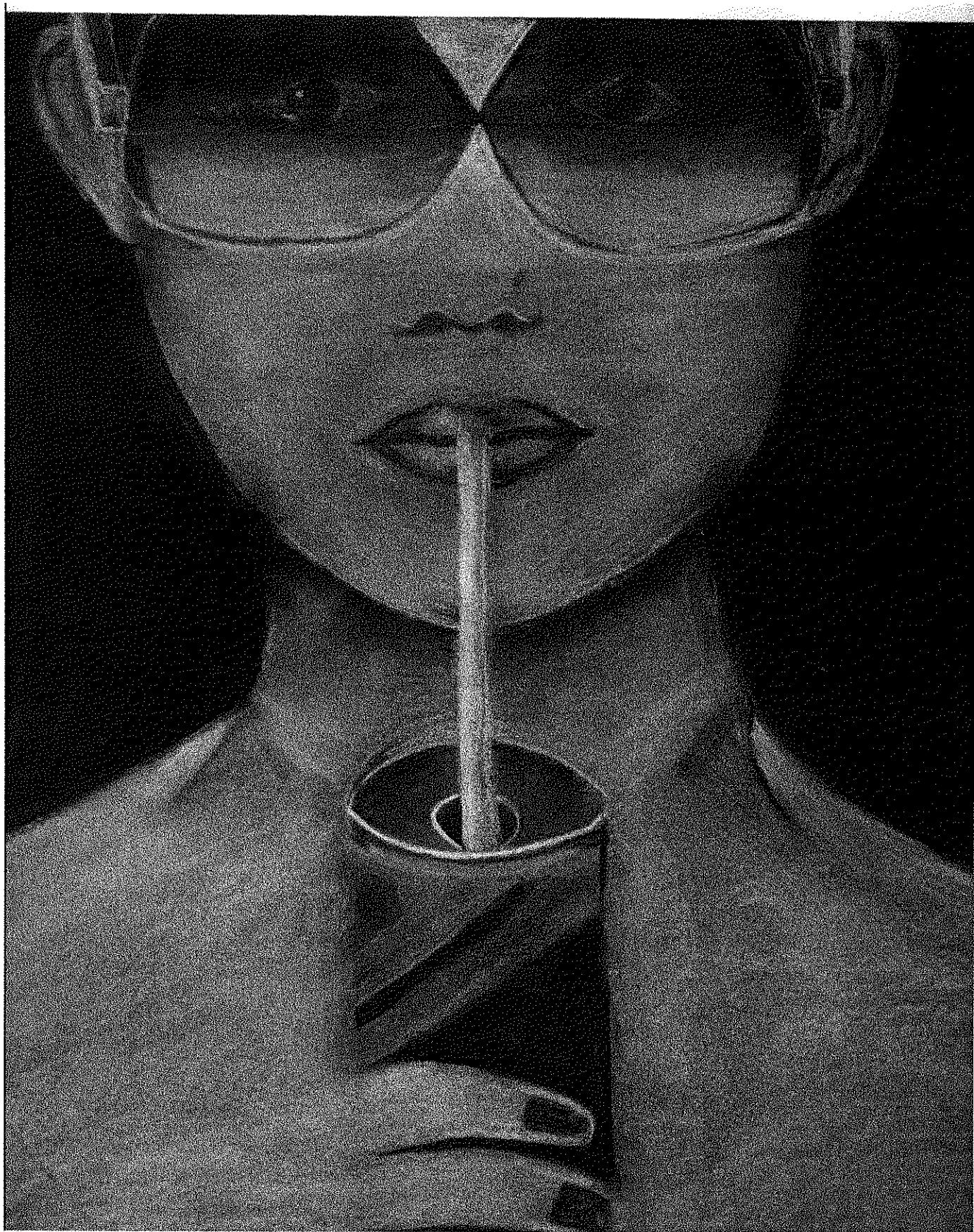
Trey Petersen



Trey Petersen



Ally Ruffner

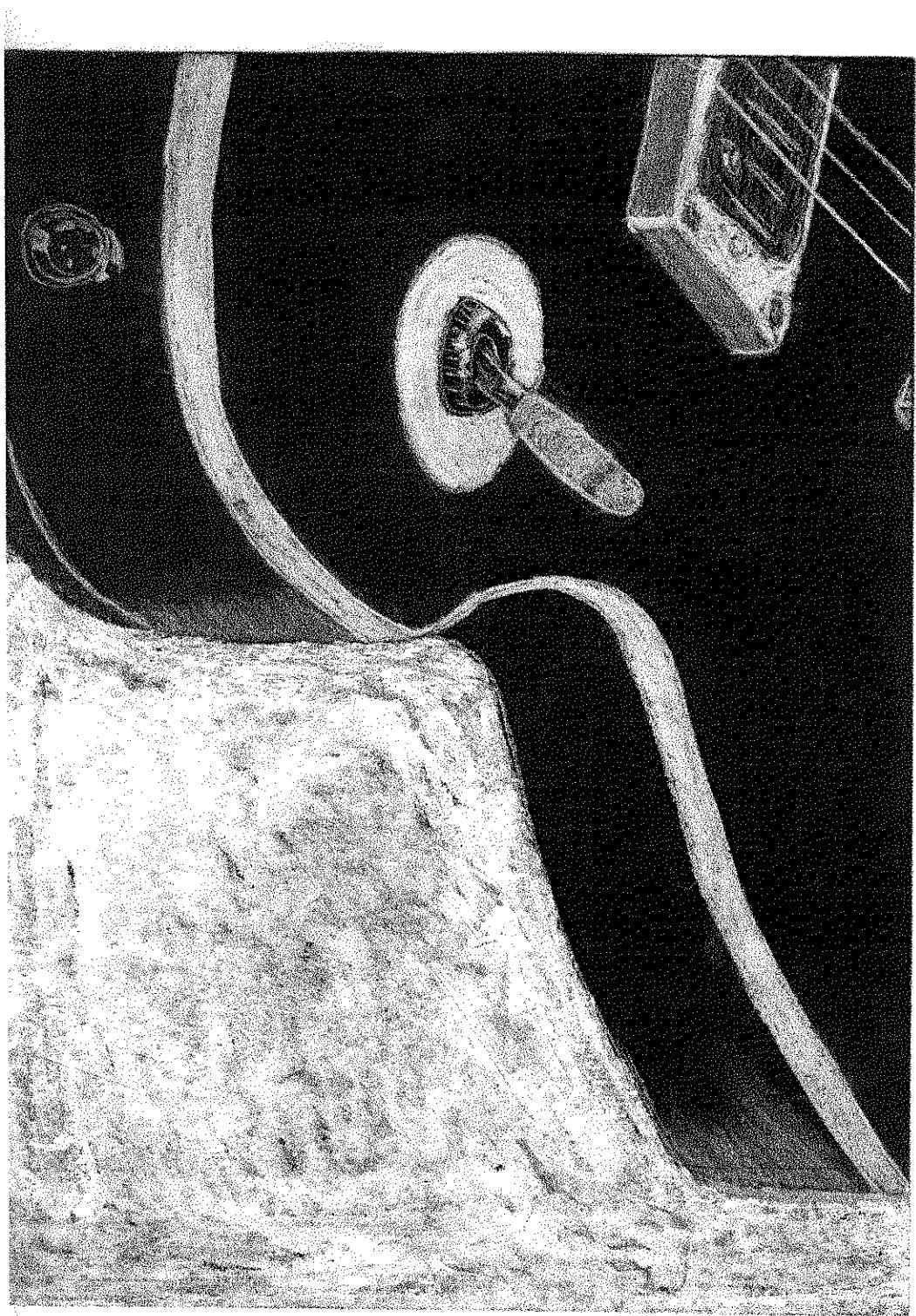


Ally Ruffner



Merry  
Christmas

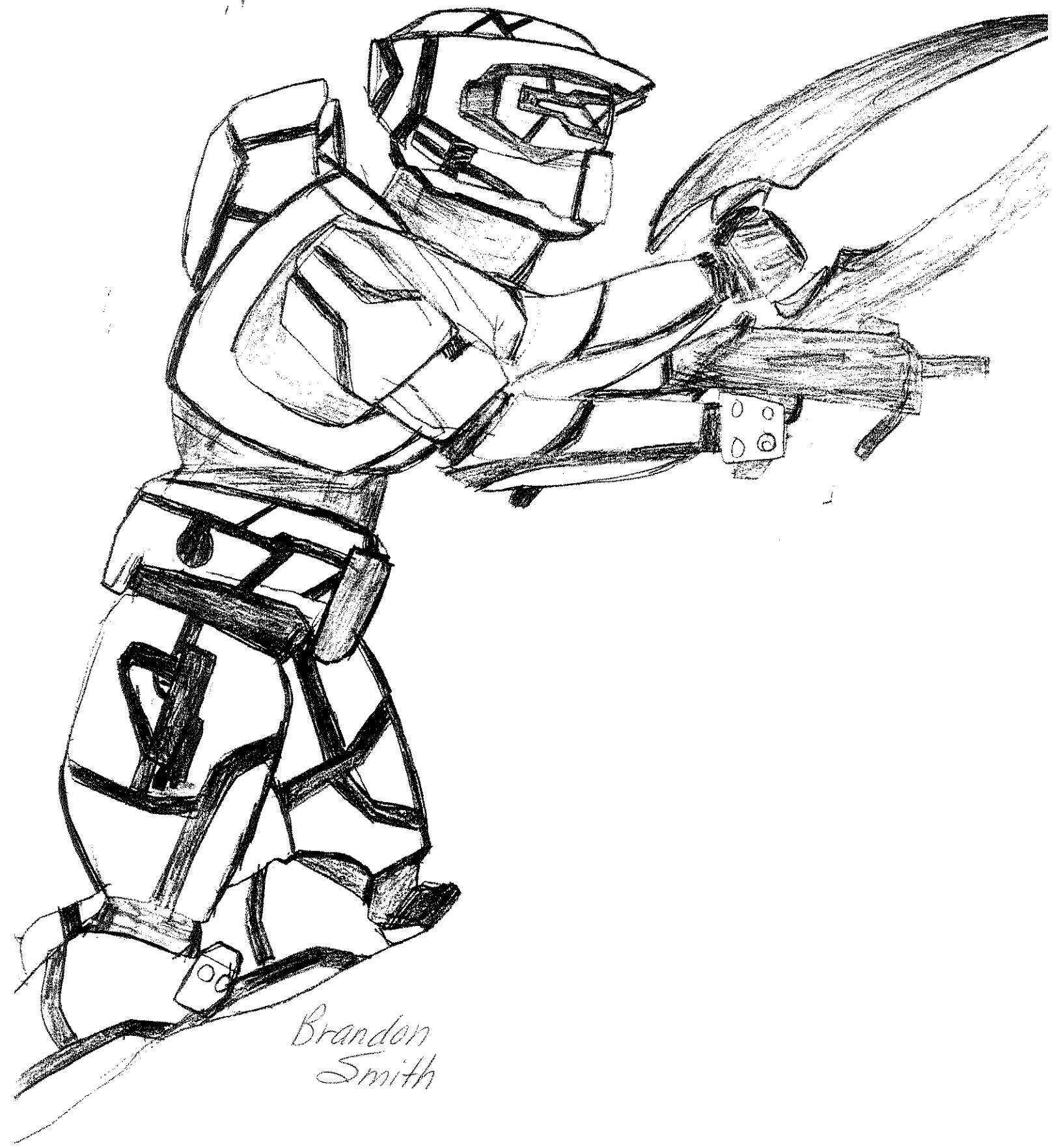
Jamel Scott



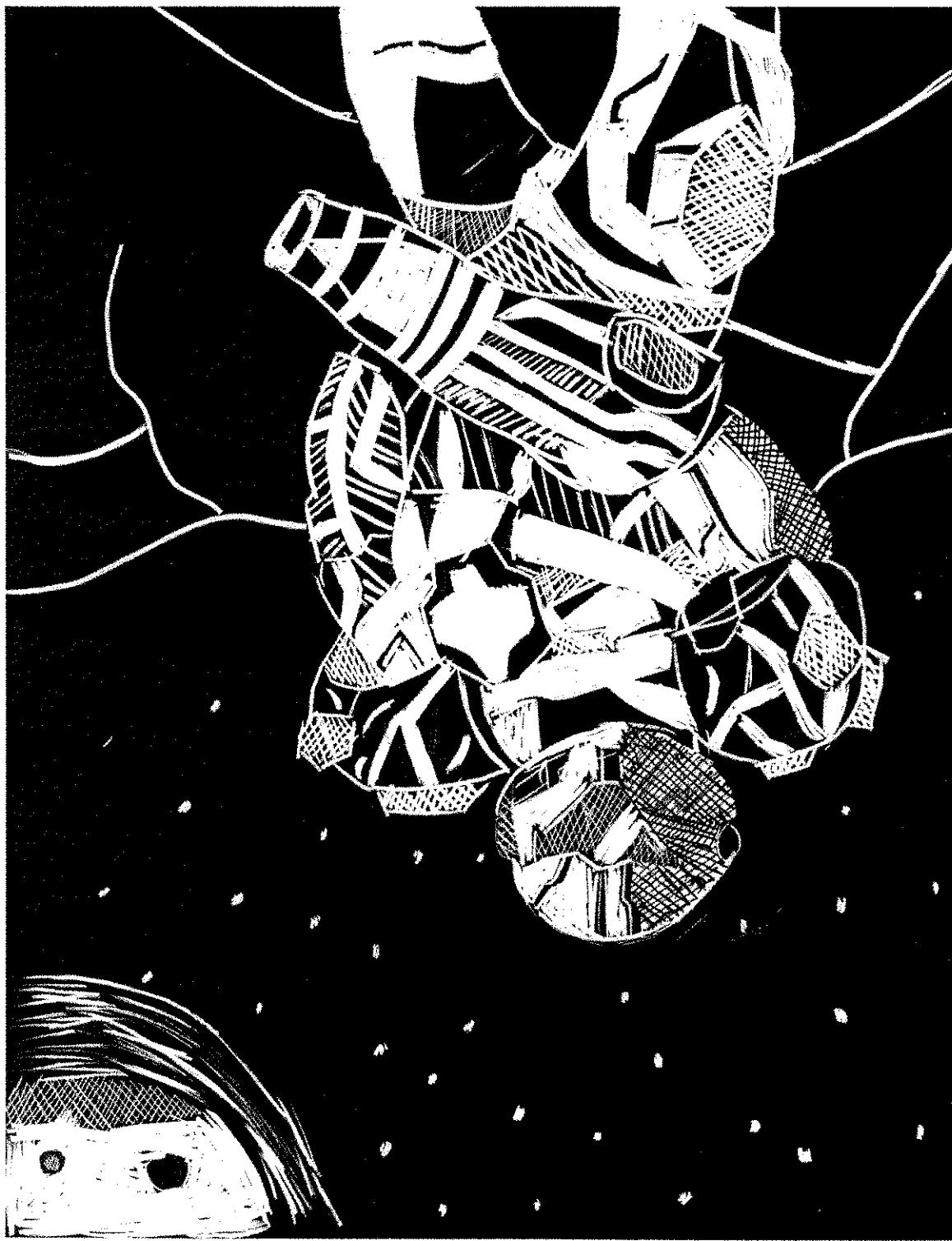
Lukas Skaala



Lukas Skaala



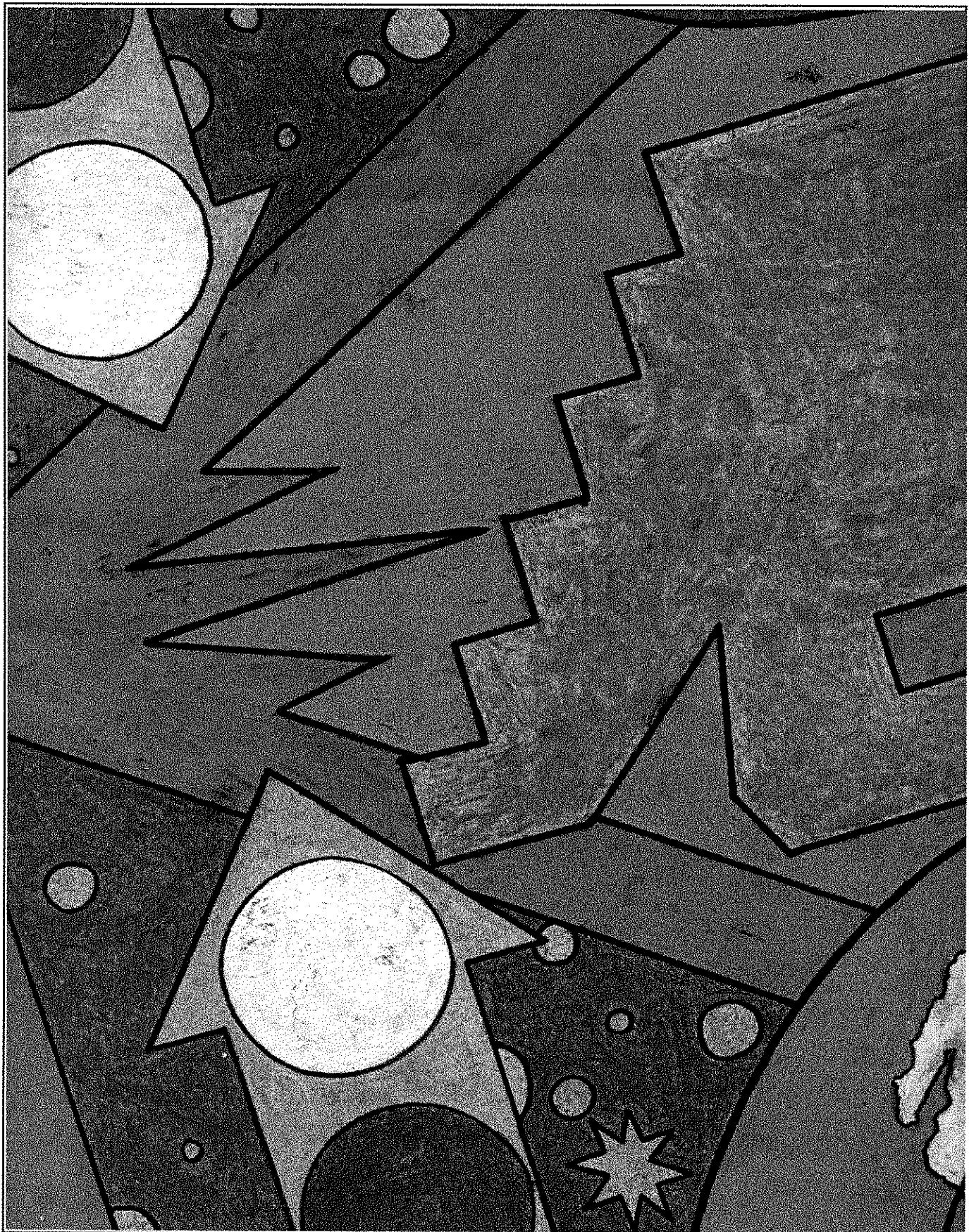
Brandon  
Smith



Brandon Smith



Kassi Snowden



Chris Swarts